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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIV. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 19, 1876. NO. 87.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his papers discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The Courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

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FIRST EDITION.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18, 1876.

SENATE.

In the morning hour Mr. Edmunds called up a resolution submitted by him on Friday last, referring the message of the House of Representatives in regard to devising means to count and declare the electoral vote to a select committee of seven Senators to act with a committee appointed by the House, and it was agreed to by a unanimous vote and without discussion. The Chair was authorized to appoint the special committee.

Mr. Wright introduced a bill to establish a court for the trial of contested elections in the offices of President and Vice President of the United States, and at his request it was ordered to be printed and lie on the table. In introducing the bill Mr. Wright said he had prepared it without consultation with any one, but was not committed to its terms, and would be glad to have suggestions from other Senators. He believed a law could be passed to settle all our present difficulties. He relied upon the common sense of the people of the country, and he believed the patriotic love of legal methods would prevail.

Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, submitted a joint resolution providing that when the two Houses of Congress adjourn on Friday next it be to meet on Wednesday, January 3, 1877. Ordered to be printed and lie on the table.

Mr. Wright called up the message of the President, sent to the Senate last session, vetoing the bill reducing the President's salary from $50,000 to $25,000 per annum, and the question being, Shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the objections of the President thereto? a discussion followed, and the Senate refused to pass the bill over the veto, yeas 25, nays 19, not two-thirds voting in the affirmative.

At the expiration of the morning hour consideration was resumed of the resolution of Mr. Mitchell, authorizing an investigation in regard to the appointment of Presidential electors in Oregon, and Mr. Key made a long speech.

Mr. Key said he did not question the motives of the Governor of Oregon. Had he [Key] been in his place, he would have held that there was a vacancy, on account of the ineligibility of Watts, and would then have filled that vacancy so as to carry out the views of the majority of the people. He then referred to the condition of affairs in South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, and argued that the will of the majority in those States had been reversed by the action of the returning boards. He referred to the argument of the Senator from Ohio [Mr. Sherman], to the effect that the decision of the Louisiana Returning Board was supreme and must be respected by the Senate, the same as a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, and said if the decision of the Board was supreme in Louisiana, the decision of Governor Grover must be supreme in Oregon. He [Key] did not admit that these decisions were final, and argued that Congress had a right to go behind them. He then referred to the case of Elitza Pinkston in Louisiana, and denied that any white man was engaged in the outrage upon her. He could assure his friend from Ohio [Sherman] that there were not such a large number of savages among the white people of the South as the testimony before the Louisiana Returning Board would lead him to believe.

Mr. Mitchell announced that Mr. Logan desired to submit some remarks upon this resolution, but was absent to day on account of severe indisposition.

The resolution was then informally laid aside.

A message was received from the House of Representatives, announcing the proceedings of that body in respect to the memory of the late Speaker, Mr. Kerr.

Mr. Morton said that as his colleague, Mr. McDonald, a warm, personal friend of Mr. Kerr, was now absent, it would be agreeable to him and other friends of deceased if the message from the House be laid on the table until the return of Mr. McDonald. So ordered.

Mr. Clayton called up the Senate bill for the relief of officers and privates of the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers. Amended and passed.

Mr. Hitchcock introduced a bill to divide the State of Nebraska into two judicial districts. Referred.

Adjourned.

The following is the vote on the President's salary bill:

YEAS—Messrs. Alcorn, Bogy, Clayton, Cockerell, Conkling, Cragin, Davis, Dawes, Eaton, Ferry, Goldthwaite, Harvey, Hitchcock, Johnston, Kernan, Key, McCreery, Maxey, Morrill, Morton, Price, Sherman, Thurman, Whyte and Wright—25.

NAYS—Messrs. Anthony, Barnum, Bayard, Blaine, Booth, Boutwell, Burnside, Cameron, of Pennsylvania; Chaffey, Dorsey, Edmunds, Hamlin, Ingalls, Jones, of Florida, Mitchell, Norwood, Paddock, Windom and Withers—19.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Knott introduced a bill regulating the proceedings in the electoral count for President and Vice President. Referred to the select committee on the subject.

Bills were introduced to promote the education of the blind; to facilitate the negotiation of bills of lading, etc.; concerning extradition and change of allegiance; to establish the franking privilege; to reduce and reorganize the navy; to promote the efficiency of the marine hospital service; for a commission on the locust plague.

Mr. Frye offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of six to inquire into the manner in which the election was conducted for members of Congress last November in the Sixth district of Mississippi and the Fourth district of Alabama, and whether in such districts there was any intimidation of candidates or voters.

The House refused to second the previous question, and the resolution went over.

Mr. Frankhin offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department to inquire into the action of the Secretary of the Treasury in regard to the engraving of internal revenue stamps being taken from the Engraving Bureau of the Treasury. Adopted.

Mr. Garfield presented a telegram received by him from Mr. Burbut, member of the Louisiana select committee, stating that the dispatch from the Chairman [Morrison] to the Speaker was without the knowledge or consent of the committee, which had never been consulted in the matter. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Hale offered a resolution for the protection of citizens in the exercise of their right of suffrage. The resolution giving rise to debate, it went over under the rule.

Mr. Banning moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution calling for General Sheridan's report on the removal of Governor Wells in Louisiana.

The conclusion of inquiry into the action of Judge Bond, in South Carolina, failed for want of a two thirds vote.

The resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report an amendment to the Constitution forbidding the payment of war claims to disloyal persons was adopted, 150 to 63.

The nays are as follows: Messrs. Ainsworth, Ashe, Atkins, Boone, Bradford, Blount, Bright, Brown, of Kentucky; Caldwell, of Tennessee; Caldwell, of Alabama; Carr, Dowman, Cook, Cabell, Culberson, Davis, Dibrell, Douglass, Durham, Faulkner, Felton, Finley, Forney, Franklin, Gause, Goode, Gunter, Harris, of Georgia; Harris, of Virginia; Hartridge, Hatcher, Haralson, Hewitt, of Alabama; Hill, Hooker, Hanton, Knott, Lewis, Lynch, Milliken, Mills, Money, O'Brien, Keogan, Riddle, Robbins, of North Carolina; Sayles, Schleicher, Singleton, Siemons, Smith, of Georgia, Terry, Throckmorton, Tucker, Vance, of North Carolina; Walker, of Virginia; Walsh, Warren, Williams, of Alabama; Wilshire, Wilson, of West Virginia; Whittnorne and Yates—63.

Adjourned.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Mollie Maguires Convicted of Murder.

POTTSVILLE, PA., December 18.—On Saturday night, at Mauch Chunk, the jury brought in a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree against Thomas P. Fisher, and guilty of murder in the second degree against Patrick McKee, indicted for the murder of Morgan Powell, at Summit Hill, in 1871.

Yellow Jack Donahoe was convicted of this crime about two months ago.

Edward Skiverton and John Fleming attacked the dwelling of Jacob Semmit, at Beaver Dale, Pa., Saturday evening. Semmit fired at them through a window, and fatally wounded Skiverton.

An Inveterate Offender.

BOSTON, December 18.—Orlando S. Brown, pardoned from the State prison a short time ago, where he was serving a sentence for forgery, has been arrested for passing forged checks on different firms in this city.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—Generally clear weather, slight rise in temperature, with southwest to northwest winds and falling followed by rising barometer.

Seven cars of silk worm eggs, valued at about $3,000,009, passed through Omaha on Sunday.

The amount of rain or rain and melted snow for the past week averages about as follows in the various districts: St. Lawrence Valley, 0.43 inch; New England, 0.45; Middle Atlantic States, 0.08; South Atlantic States, 0.08; Eastern Gulf States, 0.37; Western Gulf States, 0.17; Lower Lake region, 0.28; Upper Lake region, 0.25; Ohio Valley and Tennessee, 0.08; Upper Mississippi Valley, 0.09; Missouri Valley, 0.01; Minnesota, 0.20.

LOUISIANA.

A Democratic Ball Against the Telegraph Company—Further Evidence Before the Investigating Committee—The Senate Committee at Work.

NEW ORLEANS, December 18.—George Johnson, colored, who testified a few days ago, was recalled and stated that he had been assaulted by colored Republicans since he testified before the committee; know other witnesses who fear violence if they testify.

E. W. Barnes, manager of the Western Union Telegraph Company, who had been subpœnaed to produce dispatches sent and received by Kellogg, Packard, Dibble, Warmouth, Carter and General Augur from and after the 15th of August, 1876, was called before the committee. In answer to a question, Mr. Barnes stated that he had not brought any messages with him; that he had been instructed by General Superintendent Van Horn not to deliver nor produce messages, consequently he must, under his instructions, refuse to deliver telegrams called for by the subpœna. The committee, after consultation, adopted the following resolution, which the Chairman was instructed to communicate to the House of Representatives by telegraph:

Resolved, That for the efficient prosecution of the inquiry ordered by the House, this committee communicate to the House for its consideration the refusal of E. W. Barnes to produce before the committee the telegrams referred to in the subpœna *duces tecum* served upon him December 13, 1876, his refusal being in contempt of the House of Representatives.

General Hurlbut moved that the last clause, "his refusal being in contempt," etc., be stricken out, as the House itself was the best judge of the contempt, if there was any. The Chairman put the question on General Hurlbut's amendment, and it was lost, the Republicans voting for and the Democrats against it. The resolution was then voted for and carried by a party vote.

John Young, of DeSoto, was the next witness. Heard State Senator Dave Young, a Republican, say before the election that Mitchell would be counted out, even if he was elected; knew of intimidation by Republicans of negroes who intended to vote the Democratic ticket; they were threatened and in some cases had to have protection from the Conservatives; the colored people were afraid to vote the Democratic ticket.

Cross-examined—To General Hurlbut: Young is the holding over State Senator; know of one instance where, on Tensas river, a white man, Democrat from Chicago, was maltreated and whipped by negroes; we pledged ourselves to protect the negroes who desired to vote the Democratic ticket, even with our lives; had no organization or society organized for that purpose; is an attorney; practices in parishes of Concordia, Tensas, Catahoula, and others; is a Conservative Democrat; over one hundred negroes voted the Democratic ticket on the last election in Vidalia; about one hundred voted for Tilden and one hundred and fifty for Democratic tickets; colored men were afraid to vote the Democratic ticket unless guaranteed the protection of Democratic white men, who gave assurance of protection; many of the colored men fled the election; colored men in many instances were deterred through fear from voting the Democratic ticket, as the general talk among the negroes was that every colored Democrat ought to be killed, his wife should maltreat and leave him, and many other threats; the colored Republicans and Republican party are largely in the majority in Concordia; know of no violence to colored Democrats, only threatening talk; Dave Young and several other Republican office holders are under indictment for stealing $31,000 of the public school money; they obtained possession of the money as trustees, etc.; no violence was offered to any colored Democrat, but attempts were made to prevent them from voting the Democratic ticket by forcing Republican tickets upon them and tearing their Democratic tickets up; the supervisors of registration made but two returns, one including all the polls, and the second without four polls two, three and four, where protests were made; witness made out some of these protests; these polls were largely Republican.

J. Floyd King testified: Is a resident in Concordia; was at the poll in Vidalia on the day of the election; saw no violence, no intimidation, except threatening remarks and one colored Democrat having a Republican ticket forced upon him; is in charge of about four plantations in Tensas, Madison and Concordia parishes, and travels a great deal through the country; in every place the colored men desired to vote the Democratic ticket, but were restrained through fear of being killed; on the Morgan plantation a colored Democratic club was organized, all the members of which voted the Democratic ticket; under the circumstances thought it was heroic for the colored men to vote the Democratic ticket; had not coerced any of his hands to vote for the Democrats.

Thomas Dawson, colored, a resident in the Concordia parish: Has worked on the Morgan place for about eight years; J. Floyd King is now manager of that plantation; was President of a Democratic club containing thirty-five or forty members, made up of hands on the plantation; voted the Democratic ticket because he wanted to; heard many threats made by colored Republicans against colored Democrats, and does not believe he would have voted the Democratic ticket on the day of election if he had not been attended by white men as protection; no violence was done to colored Democrats.

E. C. Whitney, residing in New Orleans: Called up by James Anderson, Supervisor of Registration for the parish of East Feliciana, to interview him, as I learned Anderson desired to make an exposure of certain matters regarding the election in East Feliciana; am correspondent of the New York *Herald*; Anderson said he knew all about East Feliciana, and if the Democrats granted him a position he would expose everything, and intimated that such would be favorable to the Democratic party; Anderson said he was using a living wage; produced a large envelope with a seal, directed to James Anderson, and indorsed "To be opened when the Returning Board promulgates the vote;" Anderson said that he was badly treated by Kellogg and the party, for, as they said, having gone back on the party.

Charles T. Wade, colored, of Concordia parish: Voted the Republican national ticket and Democratic State ticket; did so because he had a disagreement with Senator Jay Young, and partly because he thought the Democrats would give the State a better government; knows of no violence to colored Democrats, but heard a great many threats.

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SOUTH CAROLINA.

Rumors of a Compromise Favorable to the Democrats.

COLUMBIA, December 18.—Another unsuccessful ballot for United States Senator was taken in the Democratic House to-day. Everything is quiet. The Congressional and Senatorial committees are working actively, but quietly. There are rumors of a compromise between the Republicans and Democrats favorable to the latter.

New York Times Special.)

COLUMBIA, December 18.—The resolution that passed the Lower House several days ago for adjournment *sine die* of the Legislature on the 22d inst. will be amended by the Senate and concurred in by the Assembly, so as to take a recess from Friday next to the same day in February. Owing to political disturbances here, the State officers and heads of departments have been unable to make up their reports so as to enable Governor Chamberlain to prepare his annual message to the Legislature in time for the contemplated adjournment.

It is said that during the recess of the regular Legislature writs will be issued by Wade Hampton for new elections to fill vacancies, so as to provide him with a Senate, but it is certain that a portion, at least, of the Democratic Senators will refuse to leave their seats in the regular Legislature.

Nothing was done in Hampton's Assembly beyond taking another ballot for United States Senator, and the appointment of a committee to draft a memorial to Congress relative to the political complications in this State.

The Senate Investigating Committee continued to take testimony to-day relative to the Hamburg massacre and other outrageous proceedings in the Presidential election. It is said to have been of the most startling character.

The House committee has decided to split up into three sub divisions, two of which are to go to Charleston to morrow night, and the third is to remain here. The Democrats on the committee have abandoned all further attempt to change the electoral vote of the State, and are now going for those mythical persons known as intimidators of Democratic negroes. The Democrats here have told them that down in Bufort there were several negroes who were going to vote the Democratic ticket, but their wives would not let them, and the committee are on the war path for those intolerant spouses. The committee are bound to do something, and if they cannot show that Tilden carried South Carolina they hope to prove that he would have got at least a few colored votes had the Democratic negroes, like their candidate, remained bachelors. The committee to-day took testimony introduced by the Republicans, showing why no regular return was made from Robbins precinct, Barnwell county, which polled over 1,300 Republican majority, and which was not counted by the State Canvassing Board. It was proved that the building where the polls were held was fired into by Democrats, and voting broken up, and some of the bullets grazed the heads of the managers. It was shown why no poll was held at Canaan Fair precinct, in the same county. One of the managers, David Mixson, on going to Blackville to get the ballot-box, found the following anonymous letter:

To Mr. David Mixson: You had better not go to the voting precinct of Canaan's Fair, as we have heard that there would be no soldiers there, and we intend to carry that box or kill you and the other man; so, as a friend, I warn you to stay away from there. Take heed to what I say. Yours truly,

"JUDAS."

A similar condition of things proved to exist at Millet's precinct. The managers say the leaders encouraged intimidation and violence there were from Georgia.

The following correspondence passed between Hampton and Governor Chamberlain to-day:

ROOMS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
COLUMBIA, S. C., December 18, 1876. }

To D. H. Chamberlain, Esq.: SIR—Having been legally elected and duly inaugurated Governor of South Carolina, I shall call upon you to deliver forthwith into my possess on the great seal of State, the State House, offices, appurtenances, etc. Very respecfully, your obedient servant.

WADE HAMPTON,
Governor of South Carolina.

ROOMS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
COLUMBIA, S. C., December 18, 1876. }

Wade Hampton, Esq.: DEAR SIR—Your note demanding the seal of State, offices, appurtenances, &c., received. Being the legally elected and duly qualified Governor of this State, I see no reason why your demand should be complied with.

D. H. CHAMBERLAIN,
Governor of South Carolina.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Great Britain.

TERRIBLE COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

LONDON, December 18.—A terrible colliery explosion occurred to-day in the South Wales Company's pit near Newport. Seventeen bodies have been recovered, and many of the miners taken out alive are seriously and some fatally injured.

Denmark.

THE SITUATION THE MOST CRITICAL SINCE 1864.

COPENHAGEN, December 18.—The final debate in the Rigsdag on the Finance bill occurred to-day. The speeches were irrelevant, and abounded in personal recriminations. The select committee to whom the bill was referred had stricken out or largely reduced every item demanded by the Government, and had had incorporated personal insults against several ministers. The Radicals have a large majority in the Chamber. The Government journals advise an adjournment session, which would be the third dissolution since the agitation commenced, and provide for the State expenses by means of provisional bills, and by the issuance of a large envelope with a seal, directed to James Anderson, and indorsed "To be opened when the Returning Board promulgates the vote;" Anderson said that he was badly treated by Kellogg and the party, for, as they said, having gone back on the party.

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The Commercial.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1876.

TILDEN'S tawdry ruse is terribly tarnished. He should go to Mexico and produce his play there.

SAID an old Roman philosopher: "I hold him to be dead in whom shame is dead." And yet TILDEN goes unburied.

No Republican proposes to "trick" the Democracy out of the Presidency, but neither does any Republican propose to permit them to trick themselves into it.

THE English Parliament will assemble next February "for the dispatch of urgent and important business," and we should not be surprised were the business to be found of a very urgent and important character indeed.

THE Democrats of New York are said to be circulating petitions in favor of reannexing this country to England. These people are like that distinguished Democrat, INGERSOLL, of Philadelphia, who said that if he had lived in the time of the Revolution he would have been a Tory.

THE Turkish forces are very actively employed in defensive preparations at Widdin, a town on the Lower Danube. This is the place of which DON JUAN said:

"I served for some
Months with the Russian army, here and there,
And taking lately, by SUWARROW'S bidding,
A town, was ta'en myself, instead of Widdin."

A LUZERNE county jury has found FRANK BEAMISH guilty of forgery. BEAMISH was Sergeant-at-Arms of the late Democratic State Legislature, and will serve as such until his successor is elected; and he was also a Democratic candidate for Senator at the late election in that county. He was not elected, but his party supported him, with the full knowledge that he would be a successful candidate for the penitentiary.

THE advance in freights decided upon by the trunk lines last Saturday has already had a marked effect on the grain trade and stocks. The breadstuffs trade was instantly brought almost to a stand-still, while the report of stocks also shows that though this consummation had been anticipated for a long time and partially discounted, yet the market advanced quite sharply on Pennsylvania, followed in part by the rest of the list in sympathy.

IT has been discovered that, under the act of 1795, the President has power to call out the State militia at any time for the purpose of putting down a rebellion or repelling a foreign invasion. It has also been discovered that the Republican Governors are well aware of this power, and that Washington can be filled with State troops within thirty-six hours after a call upon them. These facts have most probably tended to sober the calculations of the would-be Democratic rebels.

GETTING down to hard pan. There are, it is stated more changes, removals and withdrawals to take place in the Philadelphia dry goods trade on the 1st of January next than have occurred in many years. They are not in the jobbing or retail departments, as might generally be expected, but among the wholesale and large commission houses, the removals generally being to reduce rents, and the withdrawals of branch houses to lessen expenses.

SOME wiseacre at Washington proposes to put in a box the names of twenty-four "eminent" Republicans and Democrats—twelve of each—and then draw out nine of them, as in a lottery, and leave the settlement of the Presidential question in their hands! If the author of this proposition can name one Democrat in either House of Congress (to say nothing of twelve) who is willing to settle the Presidential question on its merits and not on partisan grounds, his idea would have a glimmering of merit; but he knows that there is not one such, and he proposes a game of chance because he knows he cannot win by any other.

THE iron has begun to enter into the soul of New York. Speaking of the new agreement as to freight rates between the four competing lines of railroad, the *Tribune* says:

"At a late hour last night, Mr. William H. Vanderbilt finally capitulated—signed the surrender of the New York Central and the agreement for an advance of freight and passenger rates which the other lines have pressed upon him, with the freight discrimination against New York unchanged. It is the end of the railroad war, but an end in which, as at present advised, we cannot see that New York has much reason to rejoice. Already Mr. David Downs has established a commission house in Baltimore, and if our own railroads, after signing these pledges, fail to protect our interests, it will not be surprising to find other leading houses imitating Mr. Downs' example.

THE people of this country declared their independence of monarchy upwards of a hundred years ago, but some of the Democrats of New York, disgusted at the failure of TILDEN and "reform," are circulating and signing a petition to Congress for reannexation to Great Britain. The following is the text of the precious document:

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Washington assembled: The undersigned citizens of the United States of America, having in view the present and prospective dangers ensuing from our Government, beg respectfully to petition your honorable bodies, that commissioners be appointed with full authority to *arrange the terms of a treaty of reconciliation with Great Britain*, setting the causes of estrangement which have unhappily existed for the past century between the two countries, to the end that the people of a common origin may enjoy the natural fraternity to which they are entitled, and the civil and religious liberty which our ancestors have won in leading the progressive civilization of the Caucasian race for the past thousand years.

THE New York *Herald* is greatly in error in designating the "Christians, or Campbellites" as a "dying denomination." That paper states that for the last twenty-five years this church has made no progress whatever in the United States; whereas it is in reality conceded by other churches to be in numbers the fourth Protestant body in the United States, besides having considerable strength in foreign countries, giving them at the very lowest estimate 500,000 members. They have more than twenty institutions of learning, ranging from the seminary to the university. They now publish eleven weekly newspapers, four Sunday school weeklies, seven monthlies and one quarterly, besides over 1,000,000 pages of tracts annually. Of books they have published since 1823 more than 250 original works, some of them reaching thousands of copies. They now have three foreign missionaries doing effective work abroad, besides sustaining many home missions, and are growing in wealth, numbers and influence wherever their work is prosecuted.

THE New Hampshire Constitutional Convention, after a session of eleven days, has adjourned until the third Monday in April. The principal aim of the convention is to improve the electoral system and the composition of the State Legislature. New Hampshire holds an anomalous position among the States in these respects. Its elections are held several days after the beginning of Congress to which is chosen members, and hence it has been unrepresented on some important occasions. In Presidential years its early State canvass has exposed it to corrupting temptations. Several useless obstacles to the franchise are maintained under the form of qualifications of voters. Its legislative representation has been awkward and inefficient. All these subjects the convention has discussed, and many of the defects it has pro- [illegible]ve. It is intended to abolish the religious test as a qualification for office; the Senate is to be increased from twelve to twenty-four members, and the House decreased from four hundred to three hundred, and no money is ever to be granted or applied for the use of schools or institutions of any religious sect or denomination. Every proposition has been adopted by a large majority after the freest discussion, indicating that the convention has in view such changes and improvements only as the voters of the State demand or will accept.

REMOVING THE CAPITAL.

Mayor STOKLEY, in a message to the Councils of Philadelphia, advises those bodies to take early steps to secure the removal of the seat of government from Harrisburg to that city; and suggests that Memorial Hall might be made to serve as a suitable building for the capitol.

Of course, the Philadelphia papers take up the cry and echo the Mayor with great fidelity; but the *Evening Bulletin* is cautious enough and candid enough to warn the rest of the State that, if the seat of government is ever removed, it must be done at the expense of the people of the State and *not* at the expense of Philadelphia.

This is a timely warning, and it is worthy of close attention. Philadelphia never was so financially embarrassed as she is at the present moment, and she has costly enterprises and improvements on hand that will keep her embarrassed for many years to come. She has a floating debt of over six millions, and her revenues have never yet met the amount of her annual appropriations. The tax rate for next year has been increased to $2 25 upon the $100 of valuation, and there has been a show of retrenchment in cutting down the appropriations; but it is impossible that she should, even at this high rate, pay off more than a small portion of her floating debt during the ensuing year.

In the course of time she may get even with her creditors, and be able to pay as she goes; but that time is so far ahead that she cannot, while these impediments last, take upon her the additional burden of providing public buildings and accommodations for the State. Her present invitation, therefore, is simply an invitation to the State to spend several millions of dollars in putting up the new buildings that will be necessitated by removal.

As to Memorial Hall, it is probably unfit for a capitol. It was designed for the purpose of an art gallery, and is fitted for that purpose alone. The State helped to build it as a memorial of the centennial year; and any attempt to turn it into a capitol, will not only be futile in itself, but will tend to destroy the purpose for which it was built.

If Philadelphia, therefore, presses this matter at the coming session of the Legislature, let it be understood that the State will have to foot the bill. Even if Philadelphia should pledge herself to bear the burden, the Legislature would, as soon as the removal was complete, be importuned by the Philadelphians to assume and pay the debt. No matter under what pretenses the removal is made, the State will be compelled, in the end, to pay every cent that the transfer may cost.

We believe in the doctrine of letting well enough alone. The State is well enough provided for where she is, and the Legislature would be no more comfortable in one city than another. The members would find more temptations to dissipation and extravagance in Philadelphia, but we have yet to learn that these are inducements to remove. It would give to Philadelphia local influences more weight in determining legislation, but the rest of the State would lose what Philadelphia would thus gain. Our advice, therefore, to the new Legislature is to give all such clap-trap invititions the go-by, and pay some regard to the convenience of the people of the State by keeping the seat of government where it is.

THE Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL rather overleaps itself in its "protection" zeal when, because of the free trade dinner the other evening, it speaks of Adam Smith as a "very able Utopian."—*Brooklyn Times.*

Not at all. Granted, as our contemporary says, that "if he had done nothing else, his complete overthrow of the then prevailing doctrine, that in trade one man's gain is another man's loss, would have entitled him to the lasting gratitude of mankind," still there is an instinct in human nature which prompts a nation to make its own interests and welfare a first consideration. Is it not in accordance with the promptings of this instinct to change a *stiff* policy which has been found beneficial, merely because the interests of another country will be promoted by such change. It is the ambition of every nation to attain a prosperity based upon a great and diversified production, and to employ as large a proportion of its labor as possible in the higher occupations requiring skill and experience. England's persistent appeals to other nations to adopt free trade have had the natural effect of exciting suspicion, and after a course of unexampled commercial prosperity she finds herself with a vast unemployed productive capacity and a gloomy outlook. There is nothing in this spectacle to cause the people of this country any satisfaction. They would much rather see the mother country prosperous, and no one can contemplate the evidences of a nation's decline without sympathy for those who feel first and most seriously the evil effects of a gradual drying up of the springs of prosperity. But when we are asked—as we were by the participants in the proceedings of the dinner in question—to put ourselves in this position that she may prosper at our expense—when we are asked to blow out our furnaces, close our mills and factories, and cast adrift the labor which has hitherto found profitable employment in manufacturing, that British manufacturers may prosper and British workmen have abundant and profitable occupation, the sufficient answer is that our first care is for our own well-being, and that we have no reason to make so ruinous a sacrifice.

THE census report of Massachusetts for 1875 reveals a great number of interesting sociological facts. There are at present 359,000 families in that State, or 91,000 more families than dwellings, thus indicating that nearly one-fourth of the whole number either "board out," or live with their mother-in-law. The occupied dwellings contain, on an average, 6.46 persons; in 1865 the average was 6.07. The average size of a family is established at 4.46 persons, while in 1865 it was 4.49. The families having three persons are numerous, numbering about 70,000; and those having four persons rank next, 66,600; while those having two rank only third, numbering 57,238. The families composed of six, seven and eight persons number respectively 37,856, 25,967 and 15,488. But once in a great while we find a mother who has imitated her grandmother or great-grandmother in the number of children borne. Four mothers are reported as having borne twenty-five children each, and the statements are well authenticated. A recapitulation by totals shows that more mothers give birth to four births each than any other number, while the births to each mother average 4.05; foreign-born mothers, 4.91, and to native-born mothers, 3.52; average number of births to Massachusetts mothers, 3.55; Irish mothers, 5.03; Canadian mothers, 4.78; other British mothers, 4.40; German mothers, 4.23. A comparative statement shows that the percentage of births to American parents constantly diminishes; those to foreign parents remain quite constant; those to mixed parents being on the increase. The death rate of foreign born is much in excess of that of American born, until the age of fifty is reached.

THE *Post* charges the COMMERCIAL with serving notice on the Democratic House "that it must not protest against the outrage and frauds of returning boards, it must not inquire into the justice or correctness of the count, but must accept KELLOGG and WELLS, as they stand, else the army and navy will make short work of it." What we *did* say was, that in case of attempted "resistance" by that body, the Government, with twenty-two Legislatures, comprising those of all the important States, in addition to the army, the navy and the treasury at its back, would put an end to the rebellion very quickly and decisively. And so it would. The Northern Democrats would be very fierce for war—by proxy; but the Southern wing of the party, which has given proof of its courage on a hundred battlefields, will refuse to open the ball. If the wine is to be drunk, Northern Democrats must open the bottle; if the omelet is to be made, it is they who will have to break the eggs. They will do neither. They are simply, as BEN. HILL felicitously says, "invincible in peace and invisible in war."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The joint rules are out of joint.

The number of suicides in France, this year, is the highest ever recorded.

What has become of that Granger suit before the United States Supreme Court?

The British market is glutted with American beef and is now calling for American mutton.

The latest invention is an indicator for steam cars, by which the various stations to be stopped at are placarded.

The Seybert bell for Independence Hall, Philadelphia, is to be again recast, the tone being still unsatisfactory.

The Northern wing of the Democratic party is beginning to show the devil that has been thinly concealed in it for some time.

Southern men now doing business in Chicago denounce the revolutionary schemes of the Northern copperheads in that city.

Let the telegraph be inviolable. It stands upon the same footing as the mail, and a telegraphic message should be as sacred as a letter.

If General Hayes is quietly inaugurated, as is now confidently expected, there will be a general resumption of business in the spring upon a healthy basis.

Deadwood City, in the Black Hills, is right over a gold mine, and the town is likely to be undermined by the eager searchers after treasure.

An enterprising publishing house of New York has made Tweed a magnificent offer for the use of data of his extraordinary career, out of which a sensational volume is to be formed.

Would it not be well to associate the Christmas time of year with human charity, and with some inquiry into and some generous care for the lives of those by whom we are surrounded?

Ominous. The Illinois State Penitentiary now has upwards of 1,600 convicts, being an excess of five or six hundred of the number originally designed to be accommodated in that institution.

The British Geological Society have recognized a discovery described by Dr. Hicks, of two district strata of sedimentary rocks, older than the Cambrian. No organic remains have been found.

Christmas is coming. Humanity, young and old, must have its toys. It is all right. And when you see a man or a child in ecstasy over a new plaything, however humble or however august, be glad with him.

The total contraction of the currency since the passage of the act of January 14, 1875, up to December 1, 1876, was $32,202,629 in national bank notes, and $15,089,000 in legal tenders, an aggregate of $47,291,629.

The fast mail arrangement revived yesterday will accommodate all parts of the South and Southwest. The West and Northwest are not covered by the resumption of this service; but doubtless they will be at an early day.

The Alabama Legislature has just repealed the absurd law taxing commercial travelers fifty dollars, the act to take effect immediately. Now let Maryland and the other States which still adhere to the practice follow the good example.

An unusual number of petitions are being sent to Congress for legislation to suppress or check the use of intoxicating drinks, the largest part of which come from the Methodists and societies of temperance and Sons of Temperance.

The social bandits who make it a practice to outrage the sanctity of happy homes, by invading them under the hollow pretext of "surprise parties," are now laying their plans and organizing their forces for a winter campaign of active crime.

The Michigan papers are urging the Legislature to impose a tax on horse stealing. There seem to be great profits and but few risks in the business as at present conducted, and hence it is held that the State ought to be able to derive a revenue therefrom.

Not the least wonderful result from the system of teaching the blind is that which enables such who have a taste for music to tune and repair pianofortes. The blind tuners connected with the leading piano establishments in Boston are among the best in their line.

For at least a year to come theaters will be safer than any private house from accident by fire, and though they have suffered for the time being and been compelled to heroic measures during an unprofitable season, it may result in good fortune for them in the future.

The Massachusetts census report for 1875 contains some curious findings. For instance, there are 106 "ladies" in the State and 298 "gentlemen," and there are five old Irish gentlemen." Then there are nine "gamblers," three "hermits," three "loafers," ten "pedestrians" and one "prize fighter."

Notwithstanding the opening of the Amsterdam Canal, the character of Amsterdam as a shipping port is very little changed, and grave doubts are entertained by a large portion of the Dutch public whether the canal is destined ever to attain its proposed end, that of opening the port to the general commerce of the world.

Baptists and Pedobaptists in one church is the curiosity in Leicester, England. The font and baptistry are side by side. The other day the Baptist pastor exchanged pulpits with a Methodist brother, who preached a sermon on the unity of the church, and then conducted a baptismal service for children, many of the Baptists remaining at the ceremony.

It is claimed that the idea that short horns cannot be bred successfully in the Southern States is erroneous; but that, on the contrary, the climate and its grass and grain products are well adapted to the growth and breeding of improved breeds of cattle, and that its cheap lands and its cleared and uncultivated fields offer a fine and profitable opportunity for breeders of short horn cattle.

A medical contemporary is encouraged to believe in the possibility of milk displacing alcohol in the affections of the people, if only it can be supplied at a low price. At a recent "dairy show" in England, one of the exhibitors made the experiment of selling milk over the counter at a penny a glass, and the result was that a neighboring "refreshment stand," that had been doing a rousing trade in malt and spiritous liquors, was deserted by its patrons, who went over to the opposition in a body.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Belknap, it is reported, is writing a book giving an account of society and political life in Washington during the past six years.

The adventurer Steinberger, whose eccentric career as Prime Minister of the Samoan Islands was so suddenly terminated, and who is now held in durance vile under English rule, appeals to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House for protection.

Considerable interest is felt in high circles in New York city in regard to a *debut* which is shortly to be made on the dramatic stage by a lady well known in the best society, and the niece of a dignitary of the Episcopal Church. The lady is very beautiful, but has an unconquerable passion for the drama, which her husband has finally consented to her adopting as a profession. His family, however, are not so complaisant, his mother especially being deeply concerned, and decidedly opposed to this step on the part of her daughter-in-law. The *debut* will not take place in New York, but in some distant city, perhaps in New Orleans, and the debutante will appear as Miss Marie.

Massachusetts has what Mrs. Livermore calls a great number of "superfluous women"—a discouraging surplus of females. Discussing the conjugal condition, the last census report evolves the fact that there are 63,146 more females than males. Fifty-four per cent. of the population are single, 94,451 are widowed, about 5,000 are divorced. It is also ascertained that of the single 449,307 are males and 458,285 are females. Of the widowed, 20,624 are males and 73,527 are females. Of the divorced, 900 are males. The excess of females in the State may be accounted for in his way: the boys go away and the girls stay at home and aimlessly wait a chance to get a husband, but often get none. The tendency among the sons of Massachusetts to seek their fortunes away from home is very strong.

The last "Lord Mayor's show" in London was marked by the innovation of escorting thirteen elephants around the crowded purlieus of the busy city, in addition to the gilded coach, weighing eight tons, and the ten cream-colored horses of weight unknown, and all the rest of the fantastic procession. An amusing exploit in the way of journalistic enterprise was connected with this new departure. It was advertised by the civic authorities that the thirteen elephants would be ridden by East Indian natives, who were, in reality, natives of London, colored up like Othello and dressed in defunct bed curtains. One of these natives proved—by the un-get-overable event of an admirably written and most exhaustive article which appeared the same evening—to have been a smart reporter for an afternoon paper, who wrote up the notes he took while trundling along as a native on the skyward regions of the thirteenth elephant, and got around to the office with them in time to meet the typos of the last edition.

The troubles of Governor-elect Don Juan Phelps, of Missouri, bid fair to rival those of the unfortunate *Mr. Weller* with the "vidders." To say nothing of campaign scandals he is now threatened with a mistress of the Gubernatorial mansion whom he little expected. A number of years ago his wife, a high-spirited lady, left him. There was no divorce, but a separation by mutual consent, the husband agreeing to provide for the wife's support a certain but adequate sum per month. Miss Phelps on leaving Springfield, their residence, went to Oregon, accompanied by her daughter, and made her home with a married sister. The existence of a wife had been forgotten. Just as he was preparing to pack up for a removal to the Gubernatorial mansion, he was startled by the return of Mrs. Phelps, who had come to preside over the new home at Jefferson City. Phelps was astonished, but not delighted, and he has as yet made no attempt to discover whether her intentions are honorable.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

The Democratic Fiasco at Chicago—A Series of Political Blunderers—Minnesota Ready for Emergency—Election of United States Senator—The Grasshopper Question—Will the Easte n States have a Visit from Them?—Capital Punishment—A Visit to the Younger Brothers—Sale of Indian Ponies.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

ST. PAUL, December 13, 1876.

Politically speaking, I am happy to inform your readers that all is quiet on the Upper Mississippi. The premature explosion of the political blunderbuss fired by the Veteran Democratic Association of Chicago, of which the harmless General Cameron, of that city, pulled the trigger, has alarmed no one in the Republican ranks, but has thoroughly and utterly disgusted the Democrats, who say that since the morning of the 5th of November the leaders of their party have exhibited to the world a series of blunders and put their party before the world in such a dangering light that nothing but ruin can result from it.

The Republicans are looking quietly at the situation, and expect that on the 5th of March Hayes will be inaugurated; and if the Democrats will inaugurate a side show at New York with Tilden as their manager, instead of choosing Jeff. Davis, and stretching their canvas in Montgomery, Alabama, as they did in 1861, Minnesota will be ready to do just as she did before, and show them that there is not room between the forty-ninth degree of north latitude and the Rio Grande, and between the Atlantic and Pacific for more than one government; and if Mr. Tilden wishes to try the thing on, he can do so to his heart's content, but he had better count the cost, for I find that even hoop skirts will not save his neck, as they did that of the last Democratic President, Jefferson Davis.

The Legislature of Minnesota, which meets next month, will have some important matters to engage its attention. The Legislature, which is largely Republican, will elect a United States Senator to succeed Senator Windom, and the Democrats have been feeling around to find some one to lead a Republican bolt, so that either a doubtful Republican or a Democrat can be elected. In this they have so far failed, since the action of the Democratic party during and since the campaign has cemented the Republican party so closely that no man can even approach the subject; and from present appearances Ushould judge that Windom will be reelected without any opposition. Mr. Windom has made a good record; he is honest, and possesses considerable ability, and Minnesota will do well to keep him in his present position.

The grasshopper question will also come before the Legislature, and this is really a most serious question, as from all appearances they will be as destructive next year as they were last, or during any former year, and I fear that during the coming year the rich and productive fields of Illinois will fall a prey to their fury, and that by the summer of 1878, if not sooner, Ohio, Pennsylvania and the East will feel their destructiveness. I am informed that the woods and prairies are literally full of their eggs, and that when warm weather hatches them out in the spring, if westerly winds prevail, the East will be swarmed with them. As quiet as it is kept, the people of this State are considerably discouraged on account of these pests, as they have already cost them millions of dollars. The grasshoppers and the drought combined have made the year 1876 one devoid of profit to the tiller of the soil. With an acreage of 1,692,501 acres sowed in 1875, there was a yield of over thirty million bushels of wheat, or an average of eighteen bushels to the acre, while in 1876, with an acreage of 1,860,121 acres, or an increase of 96,312 acres over that of 1875, the yield was only about fifteen million bushels, or an average of a little over eight bushels to the acre, thus entailing a loss of from ten to fifteen millions of dollars to the State, a greater part of this is the result of the grasshopper. The result is, the ruin of a great many people, and much distress, unless the Legislature comes to the rescue and grants aid and devises some remedy for the future.

Another matter of considerably interest, and which arises from the celebrated Northfield raid, is now being agitated to that degree that it cannot be ignored by the coming Legislature. I mean the subject of capital punishment, which is not in vogue in the State of Minnesota. Your readers will remember that on the forenoon of the 7th of last September five men made a raid on the Northfield Bank, which resulted in the robbing of the cashier and three of the robbers, and seriously wounding several other citizens of Northfield and three of the robbers. It turned out that the band of desperadoes numbered eight, of whom two, supposed to be the James Brothers, made their escape, while three, who are Cole, Jim and Bob Youngers, were captured, tried and sentenced to the State prison for life, where they are now quartered.

From the horrors surrounding the murder of the cashier and the desperate act of those fellows attacking a town in force, people think that imprisonment for life with possible chance of escaping the punishment is not sufficient for crimes of such magnitude, and consequently a movement is on foot to force the passage of a law instituting capital punishment. I am not much in favor of choking men to death, as I always look upon capital punishment as a relic of barbarism and a stigma on the civilization of the nineteenth century; yet there seems to be some cause for the movement of the people here on that question. On a visit to Stillwater, a few days since, I paid a visit to the institution where these desperadoes have taken up their abode for life, unless sooner discharged by law or otherwise, and had an opportunity to take a view of the three brothers. In this penitentiary there is no solitary confinement, but all are employed in the different shops in the inclosure. Armed with a letter from the United States District Attorney, I went to the office of the Warden, and was by him put in charge of his clerk, who conducted me through the different shops until we reached the tub and bucket factory, where, in a back room, stood a keeper with a large club in his hand, watching three men at work puttying tubs and pails. These were the three Younger brothers, who have achieved a notoriety for deeds of daring scarcely equaled in the annals of crime. I must say I was disappointed. They have not the appearance of ravening wolves or hardened outlaws which I had pictured out to myself, and I cannot now believe that they ever chose their devilish career from an instinctive desire to do wrong, but that some surroundings made them what they are. They have every appearance of well-bred gentlemen, and I can't help but believe that they owe their present condition to that outlawry engendered by slavery, and fully developed by the fiendish spirit fostered in the rebel army, and especially by their guerrilla bands, as two of these brothers received their training from Quantrell, to whose band of cutthroats they belonged, and were present at the Lawrens butchery. As a matter of course, they are uncompromising Democrats, and terribly chagrined that they could not vote for Tilden, since they are fully convinced that the country is getting corrupt and needs to be reformed. I have no doubt but the capture of these three men deprived the Democrats of the aid of three first-class ball dozens.

In the State prison there are nearly 200 convicts, among whom are two brothers o Lou Ballard, the notorious counterfeiter, who are serving the State for stealing wheat.

The Quartermaster here advertised a sale of ponies captured from the Sioux during the present Indian war. These ponies, numbering 1,300, were started from the Indian country in November, 700 of which reached Breckenridge several days ago, the other 600 having perished on the way. Rather a heavy loss. The mercury went down to twenty-seven below zero la t week, but the weather is mild at present.

A. P. H.

The Canadian journals predict a change in the sugar tariff at the meeting of Parliament, January 15.

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UNDERWEAR.

White and Colored Merino Shirts and Drawers 50c, 75c and $1. Extra Good Values.
Fine Scotch Wool Shirts and Drawers 50 per cent. lower than ever before offered in this market.
Heavy Russia Flannel (Mode and Scarlet) Shirts and Drawers.
White and Scarlet Shaker Shirts and Drawers.
Boys' White and Colored Merino Shirts and Drawers, all sizes.

HOSIERY.

Cashmere, Merino, Cotton, Heavy Shaker Knit, Scotch Wool, Camel's Hair, Balbriggan, Cotton and Silk Half Hose, Plain Colors and Fancy Stripes.

HANDKERCHIEFS.

Silk Pocket Handkerchief, from 25c up.
Hemstitched Silk Pocket Handkerchiefs in Fine, Cardinal, Brown and White.
Linen Handkerchiefs, Pure White and New Styles Colored Border, Plain Hemmed and Hand Stitch.

Fine Suspenders: Silk, Gingham and Alpaca Umbrellas; Light Gum Overcoats; Scarf Pins and Rings; Spray Studs, Collar and Cuff Buttons.

GLOVES.

Doeskin, Dog Skin, Fine Calf, Heavy Leather and Cloth Gloves, Lined and Unlined.
Opera Kid Gloves, 2-Button, at $1 25.

We are still offering a few number of STAR SHIRTS at the reduced prices of $1 and $1 50.
Also, extra bargains in Fine Fancy Shirts.
Open on Saturday night till 8:30 o'clock.

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GERMANIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF NEW YORK.

Statement of Condition of the Com'py. JANUARY 1ST, 1876.

Cash Capital	$ 500,000 00
Reserve for Re-Insurance	515,853 37
Reserve for Losses under adjustment	78,138 07
Net Surplus	616,159 88
	$1,710,151 32

INVESTMENT OF ASSETS.

Cash on hand and in Bank	$ 171,826 51
Bonds and Mortgages, being first lien on Real Estate	715,709 00
United States Bonds (market value)	589,275 00
Bonds of the City of New York and Brooklyn, (market value)	47,845 00
Bank Stocks (market value)	8,580 00
Loans, secured by Collaterals	35,462 48
Real Estate	50 497 34
Interest and Rents Accrued, January 1st, 1876	19,604 46
Cash in hands of Agents and in course of transmission	70,640 40
Premiums due and uncollected on Policies issued at Home Office	3,410 13
	$1,710,151 32

JOHN D. BIGGERT, Agent,
TUF Office, 61 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

TARRANT'S SELTZER APERIENT

"WHAT WILL

Tarrant's Seltzer Aperient

CURE?" asks the sufferer from a multitude of diseases. We answer: It will remove from the system the active cause of most of the diseases that flesh is heir to. It won't mend a broken limb, nor close a bullet hole; but it may be profitably used in stomachic diseases. It will do no one any harm and may do much good. Try it, and see if it won't suit your case.

TTHS SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

PATENTS.

Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and G streets, or 39 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh

Send for circular

DRY GOODS

TUES

NEW CHRISTMAS GOODS!!

AT

WILLIAM SEMPLE'S,

Nos. 165, 167 and 169 Federal Street, Allegheny, Pa.,

For a Suitable CHRISTMAS presents many attractions to be found on our counters MOST REASONABLE PRICE everything may be found at the

Goods for the Holidays.

A most suitable gift for a Christmas present, and when our stock offers unsurpassed attractions, would be Dress Pattern of any material.

DRESS SILKS.

Our Silk Department is as it has been during the season, full, fresh and complete, and at prices lower now here in the United States.

At 85, 90 and 95c, good heavy Black Dress Silks.

At $1 and $1 25, extra heavy Gros-grain Black Silks.

At $1 37½, very superior Gros-grain Black Silks.

At $1 50 to $4 50, special good value in Gros-grain and "Hand spun" Black Dress Silks.

At $1, Seal and assorted Brown Dress Silks.

At $1 25 to $2 50, extra value in choicest shades Colored Silks, much under value.

While our lines of Mourning and Fancy Dress Silks, including Brocade Silks, is specially attractive in variety and prices.

At 25 to 50c, extra good Black and Colored Cashmeres.

At 60 and 62½c, extra bargain in Colored Merino.

At 65c to $1, superior value in Black and Colored Cashmeres.

Having made large and most advantageous purchase of these goods, the value offered cannot be excelled.

At 10 and 12½c, choice seasonable Dress Goods.

At 12½c, Knickerbocker Suitings worth 25c.

At 18¾c, all Wool Striped Oversuitings.

At 18¾, to 25c, Fine Colored Cashmeres.

At 20c, newest shades in Basket Cloth Goods.

At 25c to $1 50, beautiful line of latest effects in Dress Goods of all textures and in all shades, suitable for promenade and interior wear, at the lowest prices.

At 12½ and 15c, best makes and styles Tycoen Reppe.

Full and very complete stock of Medium and Deep Mourning Goods.

AT LOWEST PRICES.

1876, 1877,

Holiday Goods!

AT

James Caldwell & Co.'s,

No. 115 and 117

FEDERAL ST.,

ALLEGHENY.

Attractive Display

AND

Lowest Prices!

NEW

Dress Goods,
Dress Silks,
Muffs and Boas,
Seal Sacques,
Cloth Sacques,
Cloaking Cloths,
Shawls, Skirts, &c.,
Housekeeping Goods.

Will Open on Monday, Dec. 18th,

NEW SELECTIONS OF

Handkerchiefs,
Ladies' Neck Wear,
Gloves, &c, &c.,

And Many Other Articles Suitable

FOR

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S

Presents!

HOTELS.

IMPERIAL HOTEL,

The Only First-class Three-Dollar-per-Day Hotel in Washington.

In order to meet the wants of the Traveling Public, this Five-Story Hotel has reduced its price from Four to Three Dollars per day. The above Hotel is pleasantly located near Fourteenth street, fronting on Pennsylvania avenue, and convenient to the Capitol, Army, Navy, State, Postoffice and Interior Departments.

S. B.—Take the Pennsylvania Avenue Horse Cars, and tell the Conductor to let you off at the Ebbitt Hotel.

JAMES S. PRINCE, Proprietor.

FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL,

(FORMERLY HARE'S HOTEL,)

No. 133 Liberty Street, Foot of Fifth Avenue.

TERMS $2 PER DAY.

HUGH HEYS, Proprietor.

DISSOLUTION.

THE PARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE EXISTING under the firm name of BECKERT & GERWIG is this day dissolved by mutual consent. C. W. GERWIG retiring. The business will be continued by C. BECKERT, who will pay all debts and collect all accounts.

November 25, 1876.

DRY GOODS

DAY. DE

AT

WILLIAM SEMPLE'S,

167 and 169 Federal Street, Alleg

AS PRESENT, the very exten shoppers and purchasers of H for a HOLIDAY GIFT.

Suitable Presents!!!

A most substantial gift for a Christmas present, of which we have a very full and complete assortment, would be a Sacque or Shawl, &c.

NEW SACQUES.

Our line of Ladies' Sacques and Cloaks being especially complete at present and at such low prices, offers inducements to purchasers better than ever.

At $1, Ladies' All Wool Grey Sacques.
At $2, Ladies' Beaver Cloth Sacques.
At $3, Ladies' Rough Cloth Sacques.
At $5 and $6, Ladies' Matalasse Sacques bought very low and worth $10 and $12.

NEW CLOAKS.

Our Sacques and Cloaks are all latest styles, extra length, and superior in make to many others.

Velvet and Silk Sacques at low prices.

A special bargain is offered in a few Real Seal Skin Sacques, all latest style and long shape.

NEW FURS.

A large and very complete assortment of all the various kinds of Ladies, Misses and Children's Furs, offered at extremely low prices.

A new and choice variety of New Shawls, of the most fashionable styles, at very low prices.

UNDERWEAR.

Ladies, Misses and Children's Merino and Scarlet, all Wool Underwear.

Infants' Outfits of all kinds.

Ladies, Misses and Children's Skirts, in Balmoral, Felt, Cloth, Scarlet and Alpaca, and a full and large variety of Muslin Underwear.

AT POPULAR PRICES.

Western Insurance Co.

OF PITTSBURGH.

INCORPORATED MARCH 20, 1849.

Assets January 1, 1876 - - $328,615.

FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.

Office—First National Bank Building, corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street.

DIRECTORS.

Alex. Nimick, Reuben Miller, Jr.,
Alex. Speer, Andrew Ackley,
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Phillip Reymer, John Wilson,
H. Sellers McKee.

ALEXANDER NIMICK.....President.
WM. P. HERBERT.....Secretary.
GEO

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 18, 1876.

Not much is noted in financial circles. The situation contains the same elements of caution in policy, ease and abundance of funds and slack demand for legitimate sources that have so frequently been reported. The rates of discount are easy and unchanged at 6@7 per cent. on prime commercial paper and 8@9 per cent. on first class collaterals. Otherwise the local money market is destitute of especial news. Advices from London report a sudden decline in the prices of silver bullion to 57d, which indicates that the limit of the value of silver has been reached. Indeed the upward movement to 58⅛d per ounce appears to have been largely due to speculative causes, which having spent themselves it is to be hoped that the metal will assume a steady value. We note that in New York there is an increased demand for Government bonds both at the stock boards and from dealers. The *Journal of Commerce* says that for the next thirty days there will be no difficulty in disposing of from twenty to thirty millions. The banks are taking bonds as a basis for new circulation, the life and fire insurance companies and savings banks are investing largely, and there is a sharp inquiry from the Eastern States, where bonds are wanted by capitalists and others to save taxes. The fall in gold has sent the price of the 6s below the figures at which Massachusetts and New York State bonds are held, and this fact stimulates the demand. Those who held off while the market was declining are now among the most anxious buyers, and have been since gold touched 107. The surplus funds released by the January dividends and disbursements will probably strengthen the demand for Government bonds, as, in the present condition of business, they are the best investment that can be obtained for unemployed funds.

—The New York *World* furnishes the following data as to the basis of agreement for the settlement of the railway war:

The managers of the four trunk lines, having settled their differences as to Eastbound freights—on the basis of the same rates for all competitive business arriving at the seaboard, and a differential rate for purely local business—the lines starting at Baltimore and Philadelphia—met this morning in consultation with their Western connections, to determine upon a new schedule of prices. They took up the cities of West-bound freight, and adopted a tariff of 50 cents per 100 pounds for first class 150-pounds for second, 40 cents for third, 30 cents for fourth and 25 cents for special. For East-bound freights, grain and flour were fixed at 30 cents and fourth class and provisions at 35 cents. These are the rates between Chicago and the seaboard for competitive business. On purely local business, Baltimore gets a rebate of thirteen per cent. on receipts from Chicago and fourteen per cent. from St. Louis and Southwestern points, while Philadelphia gets an allowance of ten per cent. from Chicago and nine per cent. from the Southwest.

By this arrangement New York is put on an equality with Baltimore and Philadelphia for all competitive business, on the principle that in competitive business all lines are entitled to adopt the rate of the shortest line. On the other hand, the cities which are nearer, in mere distance, to the producing centers, get a recognized advantage for their purely local wants. All parties to the agreement seem to regard it as very favorable, and therefore feel easy in saying they think it will last.

—The Boston *Advertiser* says: "The sudden stiffening in the money markets, if not wholly expected, is now an accomplished fact, and the prospect is that a firmer condition will rule at least until after the first of January, exceptionally large proceeds from a temporary scarcity of greenbacks. For some time our banks have been drawing down their balances in New York, and now that none is wanted, on failing the necessity of considerable shipments of greenbacks to meet the demand. New York funds have advanced to 40@50 cents a thousand under these circumstances—a rate which decidedly favors shipments. This drawing off of greenbacks has made clearing-house funds scarce, and the rate for balances today advanced to 5 per cent. This continuous advance directly affects the rates for loans and discounts. Banks which have been glad to lend on call at 3@4 per cent., now want 6, as they can lend to each other at 5. The discount market also feels the impetus, and has practically advanced 1 per cent., the banks now generally refusing to take any paper at less than 5 per cent., and charging 6 per cent. on such as they notify have only a short time to run, say a few days ago. There is, however, no general increase noticeable in the amount of paper offering."

—The Philadelphia *Times* says: The demand for money has slightly improved, but that is due more to the movement of parties who have obligations maturing on the first of the new year than to any other cause. It is considered a prudential measure to make these arrangements in the first half of December, rather than in the experiences which is likely to spring up at the last moment. There is, however, no scarcity of capital in this locality, nor any prospect of even an approach to anything like stringency. Rates continue to rule as heretofore noted.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway specs, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 18, 1876.	10:00	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:00
Gold	108	107⅝	107⅝	107⅝	107⅝	107⅝
U. S. 6's, 1881, c. cp.	117½	117½			117½	
6-20's, 1865	117½	117½			117½	
5-20's, 1865, new	112½	112			112	
5-20's, 1867	112½	112½			112½	
5-20's, 1867, reg.	112½	112½			112½	
5-20's, 1868, c. cp.	112½	112½			112½	
5-20's, 1868, reg.	112½	112½			112½	
10-40's	107½	107½			107½	
10-40's, coupons	107½	107½			107½	
Currency 6's	122½	122½			122½	
New 5 per cents	108	108			108	
Western Union Tel.	90½	90½			90½	
Quicksilver	23½	23½			23½	
Pacific Mail	24½					
Panama					130	
Adams Express	113				113	
Wells-Fargo Ex.	93				93	
American Ex.	57				57	
United States Ex.	81				81	
Erie	8½				8½	
Do. preferred	18½				18½	
Harlem	126½				126½	
Do. preferred	138				138	
Michigan Central	87½				87½	
Panama	145				145	
Lake Shore	71½				71½	
Illinois Central	97				97	
Cleve. and Pitts.	87½				87½	
Cleve. and Pittsburgh	124				124	
Chicago & Northwest	32½				32½	
Do. preferred	58½				58½	
Rock Island	101½				101½	
St. Paul common	20½				21	
Do. preferred	36½				36½	
Wabash common	8½				8½	
Atlantic & Pac.	13½				13½	
Ohio and Mississippi	18½				18½	
Marion common						
New Jersey Central	37½				37½	
Hannibal & St. Jos.	12½				12½	
Iron Mountain	15				15	
C., C., C. & I.	70				70	
Del., Lack. & West	70½	70½			70½	
Northern Central	37½				37½	
South Carolina, pref.	34					
Missouri 6's	92½				92½	

The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central			48½
Reading	18½	19	
Philadelphia & Erie	8½		
Phila., Wilm. & Baltimore	9		
Lehigh Valley	48½	49	
Allegheny Valley 7-30's	104	105	
Central Transportation	30½	30½	
Empire Transportation		50	
N. C. & St. L. R. R.	83½	84½	

(By Associated Press.)

Gold Closed at 107⅞.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 18.—Money easy at 5@7 per cent., closing at 7 bid. Prime mercantile paper 5@7 per cent. Customs receipts $187,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $122,000. Clearings $20,000,000. Sterling firm at 482⅝@484.

GOLD.

Gold advanced from 107⅛ to 108 and reacted to the former figure. Cash gold loaned at 4 per cent. currency to 7 per cent. gold for carrying. The gold or bullion value to-day of existing and proposed silver coin is as follows: Trade dollar 90.26 07; 412½ grain silver dollar 89.91; ten half eagles, four quarter eagles and ten dimes 89.88 25. These figures represent what silver bullion in coins named would bring to-day.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds steady. Railroad bonds firm and in good demand. State securities dull. Stocks were generally strong and higher, the greatest improvement being in Michigan Central, St. Paul, Lake Shore and Western Union. Delaware, Lackawanna and Western was weak. Transactions 163,000 shares, of which 4,000 were Pacific Mail, 27,000 Western Union, 5,000 Northwestern, 3,000 Rock Island, 12,000 St. Paul, 4,000 Erie, 48,000 Lake Shore, 2,000 Wabash, 3,700 Michigan Central and 15,000 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
West. Union Tel.	91	Rock Island	101
Quicksilver	23½	St. Paul	21
Do. preferred	37	Do. preferred	36½
Pacific Mail	24½	Toledo & Wabash	8½
Mariposa	5½	Do. preferred	5
Do. preferred	10	Ft. Wayne	101½
New York Central	103½	Pierre Hand	70
Adams Express	113	Do. preferred	15
Wells-Fargo Ex.	93	Chicago & Alton	108
American Ex.	57	Do. preferred	120
United States Ex.	81	Chicago & Southwest	5
Erie	8½	Do. preferred	20
Do. preferred	18½	Atlantic & Pac. Tel.	14½
Harlem	126½	Atlantic & Pacific	3
Do. preferred	138	Atlantic & Pacific, 2	
Michigan Central	87½	Western Union	91
Panama	145	Bur. & Quincy	124
Lake Shore	71½	Hannibal & St. Jos.	12½
Illinois Central	97	Union Pac. Stock	24½
Cleve. and Pitts.	87½	Central Pac. Bonds	103
Northwestern	32½	Union Pac. bonds	103½
Do. preferred	58½	Do. land grants	90½
N. Y. Central	103½	Do. S. F. bonds	91½
C., C. & I.	69½		

GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	113½	New 5's	111½
5-20's, 1865, reg.	112	New 4½'s	105
5-20's, 1865, new	113	10-40's, registered	113
5-20's, 1867	112½	10-40's, coupons	113½
5-20's, 1868	112½	Currency 6's	121½

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	40	Virginia, old	29
Tennessee, new	40	Missouri 6's	107½
Virginia, new	28½		

LONDON, December 18, 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to-day is £344,000. The rate of discount in open market for three months' bills is 1⅝@1¾ per cent., being ⅛ per cent. below the Bank of England rate. Silver 57¾d per ounce. Consols 93 15-16. United States bonds—5 20's, 1865, 104½; do, 1867, 107½; new 5's, 106½; 10-40's, 107½. Railroad securities—New York Central 102; Erie 9½; preferred 18¾.

PARIS, December 18.—Rentes 104 francs 65 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 18.—United States bonds—New 5's 101½.

NEW ORLEANS, December 18.—Gold 108¾@108⅞. Sight exchange on New York ¼ per cent. discount. Sterling exchange 518½.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 18, 1876.

The market generally remains quiet, though a stronger feeling is manifest and trade very good. Recent news from Europe has tended to stiffen the prices of flour and grain in the West, and the influence is already sensibly felt in the market here. There are as yet no changes to notice, however. In country produce there is a good business done, but no advances reported. There is a lively demand for dressed poultry, though there is a pretty large old stock of this on hand. Provisions and groceries stand at figures previously given.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in this city since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,337	Apples, bbls	24
Corn, bus	1,800	Cheese, lbs	70
Wheat, bus	1,800	Butter, pkgs	20
Barley, bus	450	Bacon, pc	2,990
Rye, bus	400	Bacon, lbs	22
Oats, bus	4,530	Hay, bales	375

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. In small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The grain market, as already said, is strong, but there are few changes in it to note. We quote wheat as follows: Prime Ohio and Pennsylvania red at $1 40@1 43 per bushel, and amber at $1 45. Corn is in good demand, and sells readily. We quote old shelled at 55@56c per bushel for prime yellow and high-mixed; new car is in demand at 53@53c; prime new shelled 52@53c. Oats remain at nearly former quotations. We quote prime white at 40c per bushel; mixed 36@38c. Rye is in moderate supply and quoted at 75@80c. Barley is quiet and is quoted at 75@80c for good to prime; spring; prime fall at 60@1 10. Jobbing sales at the usual advance.

FLOUR—Is in good demand and prices unchanged from those last week. We quote No 1 white wheat flour $7 25@7 50 ₱ barrel; No. 1 amber flour $7 00@7 25; prime red wheat flour $6 50@6 75; in sacks 25c less ₱ barrel. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers for standard brands are as below: Choice brands of red winter wheat flour $6 50@7 75; white wheat flour $7 25@7 50; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 00@7 25; Minnesota, $6 25@7 50; fancy St. Louis at $8 00@9 00; choice patents $9 00@9 25; Graham flour $6 50@6 75; buckwheat flour, in barrels, $6 75 ₱ barrel; kegs $3 75; rye flour $4 25@4 50 ₱ barrel.

HAY—The market is dull and prices remain entirely unchanged. We quote loose from wagon at $12 00@13 00 ₱ ton. Baled from first hands $11 00@14 00 as to quality and condition. Prairie—Upland $10 00@10 00; mixed $9 00@10 00.

Country Produce.

APPLES—Are in fair demand owing to the approach of the holidays, but the supply seems sufficient for the present, as prices continue at recent figures. We quote at 75c@$1 25 ₱ bbl for common; $1 25@1 50 for prime.

APPLE BUTTER—Is dull and nominal at 30@35c ₱ gallon.

BEESWAX—Is in fair demand at 30@31c ₱ ₱.

BEANS—The market is good, and prices steady. We quote hand-picked at $2 00@2 10 ₱ bushel, and some stock remain at $2 25.

BROOM-CORN—Previous remarks and quotations apply. There is a fair demand for small lots, but such is the stock generally offered, except at a sacrifice. Prices are unchanged. We quote choice hurl at 6 cents; medium quality, that will work readily, 4½@5c; self-working grades 2½@3½c; red-tipped 3@4c; hurl brush 2½@3c; crooked at any price; crooked in hurl 1@1½c per ₱. 20 per cent. off from the above prices to quality.

BUTTER—The market shows no cut for the best quality of table butter, which is sca ce. There is plenty of common and medium stock which is not sell fast even at low figures. Creamery rolls at 28@30c; prime to choice solid, packed, 25@26c; good to fair, 22@23c; choice dairy rolls 24@26 per ₱.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Is moderately active and steady. We quote at $3 75@4 00 per cwt. for prime quality.

CHEESE—There is no change from quotations last given, the market still being quiet and firm. We quote prime full factory at 14@15c in round lots; jobbing at 15½@16c. New York Goshen is in large lots; 15½@16c in a jobbing way.

CRANBERRIES—The supply is ample and the market is easy. Prices range at $8 00@9 00 per bbl; $2 25@2 50 ₱ bushel.

CIDER—The demand is fair and supply liberal. Prices range from $2 50@3 50, barrel included, for common; $4 00@5 00 for extra choice.

DRIED FRUIT—The market is dull and nominal at 4@4½c for apples. We quote dried apples nominal at 4@4½c; sun-dried peaches 6@7c; evaporated peaches 10@12c; dried peaches 11@12c; evaporated peaches 25@28c.

DUCKS—There is a good demand and we cr ept at $1 50@1 75 per bushel.

EGGS—The market is about steady at unchanged prices. Fresh are scarce at 27@28c ₱ dozen; pickled are in large supply and quoted at 22@23c.

FEATHERS—Choice are quoted at 60@65c in wholesale lots; lower qualities 30@50c.

GAME—There is a fair supply in the market, and no changes in prices. The inexperienced hunters are now in the field, and cold days may affect prices soon. We quote as as follows: Venison—saddles 10@12½c ₱ lb; do haunch, whole dear, 10@12c ₱ lb. Quails $1 50@1 75 per dozen. Plovers, $1 50@1 75 per dozen. Prairie fowl $4 00@5 00 per dozen. Rabbits 25@30c per pair. Hares 12½@15c ₱ lb. Geese 60@65c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—Prices are pretty active, and the prices of prime peach-blows have advanced several cents. We quote at present, from store at $1 10@1 25 ₱ bushel for prime peachblows; lower grades 20@40 cts; Sweet potatoes are 10@12½c ₱ bushel.

VINEGAR—There is a moderate demand at 18@20c ₱ gallon for prime country stock; 14@16c for best city make.

Provisions.

The market remains entirely unchanged from the last quotations, though the trade is good and some sales encouraging.

BACON—The market is steady. Jobbing quotations are as follows: Shoulders 8 ₱ pound; clear rib sides 12½c; clear sides 12½c.

CUT AND CURED MEATS—Hams were easy at 12½c for canvas sugar-cured. Breakfast bacon rules easy and we quote sugar-cured — at 12½c. Shoulder-cured — shoulders 8c; breakfast strips 10½c.

LARD—Demand fair and market steady. We quote refined lard in tierces 11½c ₱ lb; in half barrels 12c ₱ lb; in buckets 12½c; in 5-lb caddies 13½c; in 3-lb caddies 14c; in 1-lb caddies 15c. Leaf lard rules at 10c in tierces.

PORK—Is quiet. We quote clear at 17@17½c; mess, $16 00@16 50; family mess, $17 00@17 50; extra clear, $18 00@18 50; hams, 12½@13½c; shoulders, 8c; breakfast bacon, 12½c; sugar-cured, 12½c; shoulder-cured, 8c; canvas sugar-cured, 12½c; shoulder-cured, 8c; breakfast strips, 10½c; dried beef, 12½c.

SALT—Is in fair demand at $1 30@1 35 ₱ barrel for Onondaga; $1 40@1 45 for Ashton; $1 50@1 55 for Worcester; $1 60@1 65 for Higgins; $1 70@1 75 for Saginaw; $1 80@1 85 for Turk's Island; $1 90@1 95 for Liverpool coarse; $2 00@2 05 for Liverpool fine.

SEEDS—Timothy is dull and nominal at $2 50@2 60 ₱ bushel; clover is in fair demand at 6@6½c ₱ lb; flax seed is dull at $1 60@1 65 ₱ bushel.

SORGHUM—Is in fair demand at 30@35c ₱ gallon.

STARCH—Is dull and nominal at 6@6½c ₱ lb.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' city rendered, at 9@9½c ₱ lb; country do 7½@7¾c ₱ lb; rough 4½@5c ₱ lb.

Groceries.

A strong feeling characterizes this department of the general markets, but we have no changes or other way of special notice. The prices current we quote as follows:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb.	Sugars.	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio	24½c	Standard A	11½@11¾c
Prime Rio	23½c	Do. extra C	11½@11¾c
Choice Rio	22½c	Standard A	11½@11¾c
Prime Rio	21½c	Do. extra C	11½@11¾c
Good Rio	20½c	Standard A	11½@11¾c
Ordinary Rio	19½c	C—yellow	9½@9¾c
Java	30½c	Franklin, B	10½@10¾c
Roasted Coffees.		Powdered	12½c
Rio, in papers	26 @27½c	Cut Loaf	13 c
21 grades	30 @34 c	Crushed	12½c
Rio, in bulk	23 @25½c	Powdered	12½c
Java, in papers	31½c	Granulated	11½c
Java, in bulk	30½c	Molasses.	₱ gal.
Teas.		Sir'p Ch. N. O.	62c
Youngh'son	25c@1 00	Prime	57@60c
Gunpowder	40@1 00	Fc. white drips	54@56c
Imperial	30@60	Ex. white drips	52@54c
Japan	25@50	Lower grades	25@50c
Oolong	25@50	Spices.	₱ lb.
Fancy do	1 00	Pearl	8½@9 c
Sonchong	25@	Spices (whole.)	
Spices (whole.)		Cloves	45 c
Cloves	45 c	Cassia	12 c
Cassia	12 c	Choice Carlin	6½@7 c
Nutmegs	90 @1 10	Patna	7 @7½c
Pepper	20 c	Rangoon	6 c
Soaps.		Louisiana	6 c
Irish soap, ₱ box	$4 25	Rice.	
S. S. Stock, ₱ box	5 25	Si-carb, in kegs	4½@5 c
Babbitt's best, ₱ box	6 25	Si-carb, in 1-lb papers	5 c
Gold dust	4 25	Si-carb, in papers	5½@6 c
Extra olive do	3 50	Candles.	
Do. N. Y. city, ₱ box	3 25	Star, full w't	15 c
German mottled	3 75	Star, mixture	13½@13 c
California, ₱ box	4 50	Mould	10½@10¾c

FISH—The market is moderately active with a fair demand and unchanged prices. Quotations are as follows:

	Per bbl.		Per bbl.
Extra No. 1 Mackerel	$7 00	Round herring	$6 00
Extra No. 1 shore	6 50	Split Labrador do	7 50
Extra No. 1	30 00	Lake Fish, Cisco	5 50
Extra No. 1 bay	17 00	Lake Herring, do	2 25
Extra No. 2 large	12 00	Lge Georges cod	6
Extra No. 2 medium	11 00	Do. scaled	5½
Large No. 3	11 00	Medium Georges	5½
No. 3 medium	10 00	Halibut, ₱ lb	12½
White fish, bbls	5 00	No. 1 Herring, ₱ box	25
Lake Trout, do	4 50	Scaled herring do	40

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is moderate trade. We quote as follows: Raisins—Layers, new, per box, ₱ 25. Loodies, new, ₱ box, ₱ 25. Malaga, ₱ 25 ₱ mat; Valentias, new, 10@ ₱ lb. Sultanas 17c. Currants 7@8c ₱ lb. Citron 30c. Prunes 6½c. Almonds—Languedoc 23c; do shelled 35c; do Princess 32c; do Jordan 35c. Figs 22c. Walnuts—Naples 20c; Marbot 15c; Sicily filberts 16c. Smyrna figs, new, 18c. Brazil nuts 10c. Macaroni 16@18c. Lemons—Palermo, ₱ box, $5 00. Oranges—Florida $3 50 ₱ barrel. Cocoanuts $7 50 ₱ 100.

CANNED GOODS—Trade is fair at unchanged quotations. We quote green peas, 2 lb cans per doz, ₱ 25; raspberries do, ₱ 2 00; strawberries do, ₱ 75; gooseberries do, ₱ 1 30; pineapples do, ₱ 2 25; blackberries do, ₱ 1 50; peaches do, ₱ cans per doz, ₱ 2 25; tomatoes do, ₱ 2 00; pickles, bbls, ₱ 5 50; half-bbls, ₱ 3 00.

Petroleum.

December 18.—The refined market ruled steady but could not be called active. Prices were somewhat weaker, but not quotably lower. Sales in round lots continue at 27c; to the home trade 28c. Spot oil has been sold well up. In the Eastern markets prices were maintained, the difference between spot and January delivery being 1c per gallon. At New York spot and this month ruled at 35@36c; first half of January 33c; second half 27½c. At Philadelphia and Baltimore spot was quoted at 33c; first half of January 29½@29¾c; February 27c.

CLEARANCES—December 18, 1:30 P. M.—The crude oil market has undergone but slight fluctuations to-day, the feeling being steady, with prices gradually receding to $3 81½, again rallying to $3 85¼, which may be quoted as the present price. Transactions light. Shipment about 56 cver certificates, with a corresponding demand. Union Line Conduit No. 6 certificates from the lower district Saturday 23,727 barrels.

Tidal—Quotations $3 80@$3 85 for United and Conduit.

(By Western Union Telegraph.)

OIL CITY, December 18.—The *Derrick* says: The market opened at $3 77½ and soon advanced to $3 85¼, then reacted to $3 80, and remained at that point for some time. Just before noon a further decline to $3 74½ occurred, continuing till three P. M. After banking hours there was an advance to $3 85, followed by a reaction to $3 80. At six P. M. it was $3 82½. The first sales after supper were at $3 85¼, at which 16,000 barrels changed hands. From this there was a steady advance till the close, closing with nothing obtainable below $3 88½. Shipments continue large; the amount to-day from the river Friday was 81,861 barrels. The daily average for the month is about 91,300 barrels. Prices have ranged to-day at $3 80@3 88½, according to delivery. Total sales 91,000 barrels.

NEW YORK, December 18, closing 18.—The market is very quiet at present, but there is no urgency to sell and full unchanged rates are quoted. Sales of 4,500 barrels naphtha on private terms. Prices for New York deliveries are: Crude in bulk 16c; in barrels 19c; city naphtha 15c asked in shipping order; refined in barrels 22c for late December; 23c for first half of January, and 27½c for February; cases 33@37c. At Philadelphia and Baltimore refined rules at 21c for December; 29½c for first half of January, and 27c for February.

TITUSVILLE, December 18.—Market quiet; hard to quote; $3 80@3 85.

OIL CITY, December 18.—Market quiet; united at with $3 86; shipment nominal at $3 90.

PARKERSBURG, December 18.—Market quiet; nothing doing; quoted about $4 00.

TIDEOUTE, December 18.—Market quiet at $3 80@3 85.

PARKERS, December 18.—United $3 82½ bid; shipment nominally $3 85.

PHILADELPHIA, December 18.—Market quiet but steady; standard white 21c for December; New York quiet but steady; refined 22c for December delivery.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, December 18.—Petroleum some what irregular; crude 16c; refined 32c.

BALTIMORE, December 18.—Petroleum—Crude easier at 13¾@13¾c; refined steady.

LIVERPOOL, December 18.—Refined petroleum 9½@9¾d; spirits do 10@10½d.

ANTWERP, December 18.—Refined petroleum 84 francs.

CLEVELAND, December 18.—Petroleum steady and firm; standard white, 110 degrees test, 25c.

MOVEMENTS OF PETROLEUM.

	Barrels
Crude receipts, A. V. R. R.	5,391
Refined shipments, A. V. R. R.	3,597

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Union Drove Yards, Allegheny City.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 18, 1876.

CATTLE.

The cattle market is decidedly dull this morning, it requiring a great deal of dickering to effect sales. The complaint was that the amount of poultry used during the holidays has a depressing effect on the market for beef. The receipts, as by rail were pretty large, being 5 cars, 94 head, as since 879 head last week. The demand was mainly for prime butchers' cattle. Some of the finest Christmas stock brought as high as $5 50, others bringing $5 00@5 25. We quote as below:

Primeto choice butchers' cattle.....$5 00@5 50
Good to prime butchers' cattle.....4 50@5 00
Medium to good butchers' cattle.....4 00@4 25
Common butchers' cattle.....3 50@4 00
Bulls, stags and rough cattle.....2 50@3 50
Milch cows, as to quality, per head $35 00@65 00.

HOGS.

The hog market also was dull, and the supply well up to the demand. The receipts by rail were 169 head, against 110 head last week. The ruling rates for the lower grades continue as they were last week. We give the following quotations:

Prime smooth tops.....$5 50@5 60
Medium to good swine.....5 00@5 50
Roughs and common stock.....4 00@5 00

SHEEP.

The sheep market was almost dull, and but a comparatively few head on hand—not more than 100 in all, and these were left over. There were confined to the best stock. There was no change to note in prices of inferior to common. The quotations are:

Prime sheep.....$5 00@5 50
Inferior to common sheep.....2 25@4 00

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, December 18.—Beeves—Receipts 2,750 head, making 8,350 head for the week against 10,420 head last week. Market stronger and prices fully 25c higher than on Friday for good and nearly 50c better for ordinary; fat cows and bulls steady; others dull and lower; sales of extra at $6 10@6 75; 1,200 Texans at $4 50@5 50; 1,200 Illinois at $5 25@5 75; 5 carloads Texans $4 50.

Sheep—Receipts 8,600 head, making 24,130 head for the week against 19,500 head last week. Market quiet and steady; sales at $4 50@5 50; lambs $5 75@7 00; 1,800 head of extra Michigan sheep, 134 lbs, brought $5 50.

Swine—Receipts 5,050 head, making 35,050 head for the week, against 38,100 head the same time last week. Market a shade firmer; 7 car loads sold alive at $6 12½@6 25.

PHILADELPHIA, December 18.—Cattle active and firmer; sales of 2,800 head; extra Pennsylvania steers $5 25@5 50; fair to good do $5 00@5 50; common do $4 00@4 75.

Sheep—In fair demand; sales of 2,000 head at $4 00@5 50.

Hogs—Unchanged; sales of 4,500 head.

CINCINNATI, December 18.—Hogs fairly active and 5 cents higher; common $5 50@5 75; fair to good light $5 90@5 95; packing $5 80@6 00; choice heavy $6 05@6 10.

CHICAGO, December 18.—Cattle—Receipts 1,300 head. Shipments 1,600 head. Market dull and prices nominally unchanged.

Hogs—Receipts 4,000 head. Shipments 1,300 head. Market fairly active for packing and the higher grades; light nominal. Sales ranged to fair $5 85@5 70; good to choice $5 80@5 10; extra heavy $5 15@5 20.

SHEEP—Receipts 1,300 head. Market dull and nominal.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Produce.

CHICAGO, December 18.—Flour—Demand light but holders firm. Wheat—Spring opened a shade higher; No. 1 Chicago spring $1 20¾; No. 2 Chicago $1 18¾ cash; $1 19¾ January; $1 20¾ February; No. 3 $1 07@1 09¾; rejected 93@96c. Corn in fair demand but at lower prices; No. 2 sold at 41@41½c cash; 41¾c bid February; rejected 38c. Oats dull, weak and lower; No. 2 sold at 29c cash; 29¼c bid February; rejected 28c. Rye easier at 75c. Barley firmer; No. 2 cash 80c; February. Pork active and higher; $16 40@16 45 cash; $16 45 January; $16 55@16 67½ February; $16 27½@16 30 March. Lard quiet; $11 cash; 10¾c January; $10 90@10 95 February. Bulk meats quiet and unchanged. Dressed hogs unsettled and heavy at $5 70@5 80. Whisky quiet but steady at $1 06.

Later—At the close this afternoon wheat was dull and weak; No. 2 spring 1¾c lower; No. 3 nominally unchanged. Corn firmer; 41½c cash; 41¾@41¾c January. Oats nominal. Pork easier and no change. Lard unchanged.

NEW YORK, December 18.—Flour—Demand light; sales of 5,000 barrels; superfine Western and State $4 75@5 00; common to good $5 10@5 40; fancy $5 45@5 60; extra Ohio $5 45@7 00; St. Louis $5 05@5 25. Rye flour steady at $4 75@5 00. Corn meal quiet and unchanged. Wheat—Receipts 12,000 bushels; 1 30 No. 2 Milwaukee at 95c; No. 2 Chicago spring $1 33 bid; $1 35 asked. Rye quiet and firm at 80@82c. Corn—Receipts 50,000 bushels; market steady; receipts 40,000 bushels; Western mixed 52@53c; Western white 53@54c; No. 2 for old; graded, 60@61c. Oats in good demand. Hay and hops dull. Coffee quiet and unchanged. Sugar steady; fair refining 9¾@10c; prime 10½c. Molasses and rice quiet. Turpentine firm at 36½@37c. Pork quiet; new mess—Western 26@26½. Pork $17 00. Beef quiet. Middles—Long clear city 9c, Lard—Prime steam 10¾@10¾c; refined quiet and firm; other grades dull. Western 11@12c. Cheese in good demand at 7@14½c. Whisky dull at $1 06.

CINCINNATI, December 18.—Cotton dull and prices nominally lower at 11½c. Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat dull and lower; red $1 30@1 35. Corn active at 44@45c. Oats steady and in fair demand at 31@32c. Barley firm at 80@$1 05. Rye firm at 82c. Pork—Demand fair and prices higher at $16 50. Lard quiet at 10¾c. Bulk meats in fair demand; boxed at 9c. Bacon dull; shoulders 9c; clear ribs 12½c; clear 12¾c. Hams steady at 13@14c. Whisky firm at $1 06. Butter firm; fine grades in good demand; others dull. Sugar firm; other staples unchanged. Eggs firm at 28c. Cheese in good demand at 12@14c. Whisky dull at $1 06.

ST. LOUIS, December 18.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat—No. 2 red fall $1 30¼ bid; $1 31¼ asked; No. 3 red fall $1 25; No. 4 red fall $1 15; No. 2 spring $1 25¼ bid; $1 26¼ asked; No. 3 spring 96@96½c. Corn firmer; 39¾c cash; 39¾@39¾c January. Oats firmer; 26½c cash; 26¾c bid February; rejected 25c. Rye dull and lower at 70c. Barley dull and lower; No. 2 fall 80c; February. Pork steady at $16 45 cash; $16 45 January; $16 67½@16 70 February. Lard steady; 10¼c cash; 10¼c January; 10½c February. Bulk meats quiet and unchanged. Dressed hogs unsettled and heavy at $5 70@5 80. Whisky quiet but steady at $1 06.

TOLEDO, December 18.—Flour quiet but steady. Wheat steady; No. 2 cash $1 26; No. 1 white Michigan $1 34; amber Michigan, $1 30¾; No. 2 red $1 26; rejected Dayton and Michigan 1 22. Corn steady; high mixed held at 47½c; new damaged 42c. Oats dull; rejected 28c.

LOUISVILLE, December 18.—Cotton firm at 10¾c. Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat dull; red $1 30; amber $1 35; white $1 30@1 45. Corn firm; white 46c; mixed 37c. Pork quiet at $16 50. Bacon dull; shoulders 9c; clear ribs 12½c; clear 12¾c. Whisky quiet at $1 06.

[By Associated Press.]

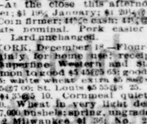
NEW YORK, December 18.—Cotton quiet at 12¼@12 5-16c. Futures closed steady; December 12 7-32; February 12 11-32@12 9-16c; March 12¾c.

LIVERPOOL, December 18.—Cotton firm at 6 7-16@6 11-16d. Sales of 12,000 bales, including 2,000 for speculation and export and 7,300 American.

Dry Goods.

NEW YORK, December 18.—Business was checked by the stormy weather and was light in all departments. Cotton goods steady with an upward tendency. Prints in moderate request and light supply. Men's wear woolens keep active. Flannels and blankets moving slowly. Foreign goods remain quiet.

Prize MEDAL Awarded.



Filled with Key West Cuttings.

PRIDE OF THE NORTH

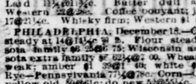
THE LEADING FIVE CENT CIGAR.

GUMPERT BROS.,

CIGAR MANUFACTURERS,

1841 CHESTNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA.

MWS



KORNBLUM,

SCIENTIFIC OPTICIAN. Spectacles, Eye Glasses, Opera Glasses, Microscopes, Thermometers, Barometers, &c., &c. Office, corner Fifth avenue and Wood street, in R. S. Davis & Co.'s Book Store. MWF

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE—I WILL OFfer at public sale on THURSDAY, January 18, 1877, at 10 A. M., on the premises of the late Redman Bros., Baldwin township, the following property, viz: About 25,000 feet 3-inch plank, 12 inch by 25 feet; 16,000 feet 1½-inch poplar plank; 2,500 feet saw timber; 1 small flat building timber, fence posts, oak lumber, wagons, harness, sled and other property belonging to said firm.

WASHINGTON BECK,

Administrator of the firm of Redman Bros. Terms made known on day of sale.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK.

Wisconsin

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Weather Report.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., ROOM 63, FIRST NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 18, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum.	WIND.—Dir.	WIND.—Miles P hour	Weath.
7 A. M.	29.868	33	79	N.W.	9	Cl'dy-now
2 P. M.	29.760	37	55	S.W.	11	Cl'dy-now
9 P. M.	30.202	32	80	S.W.	12	Clear.

Mean barometer....30.151 Highest thermom.... 34
Mean thermom.....28 Lowest thermom.... 11
Rainfall.....0.15*

*Melted snow.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SIGNAL SERVICE U. S. ARMY,
PITTSBURGH, December 18, 1876, 10:48 P. M.

Cairo, Ills.—Ther. 16; wind S.; clear.
Cincinnati, O.—Ther. 18; wind S. W.; clear.
Davenport, Iowa—Ther. 15; wind S. W.; fair.
Denver, Col.—Ther. 32; wind S.; clear.
Indianapolis, Ind.—Ther. 15; wind S.; clear.
Keokuk, Iowa—Ther. 18; wind S. W.; clear.
Leavenworth, Ks.—Ther. 32; wind S. W.; clear.
Louisville, Ky.—Ther. 18; wind S. W.; clear.
Memphis, Tenn.—Ther. 22; clear.
Nashville, Tenn.—Ther. 15; wind S.; clear.
Omaha, Neb.—Ther. 24; wind S. W.; clear.
Pittsburgh—Ther. 11; wind S. W.; clear.
Portland, Oregon—Ther. 36; wind N. W.; clear.
Salt Lake City—Ther. 22; wind S. W.; foggy.
San Diego, Cal.—Ther. 57; wind E.; fair.
San Francisco, Cal.—Ther. 53; wind N.; clear.
Santa Fe, N. M.—Ther. 21; clear.
Shreveport, La.—Ther. 30; clear.
St. Louis, Mo.—Ther. 21; wind S. W.; clear.
Vicksburg, Miss.—Ther. 26; wind N. E.; clear.
Virginia City, Mon.—Ther. 20; clear.
Fort Gibson—Ther. 17; wind S. E.; clear.

"Chicago Caramels,"
McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

Iron City College

corner Penn avenue and Sixth street, Pittsburgh. Day and evening sessions. Students admitted at any time. For terms call on, or address J. C. Smith, A. M. Principal.

Died of His Injuries.

George Richards, the young man who fell though a hatchway at Bidwell's plow works, on Duquesne way, one evening last week, died last evening at his boarding house on Ohio street. His skull was fractured by the fall, and he lay in an unconscious state nearly all the time since the accident. Deceased was nineteen years of age.

University Exhibition.

The pupils of the preparatory department of the Western University give an exhibition this evening in the hall of the institution, the programme for which is interesting and varied, and will doubtless secure the presence of a large number of the friends and patrons of the University.

Merry Christmas at Jenkins'.

Mr. D. M. Jenkins, the well-known family grocer of No. 20 Fifth avenue, presents a very attractive list of good things for Christmas in another column. Mr. Jenkins has the reputation of keeping the finest and selling at the lowest possible prices. His store is always an attraction and the good housewife delights to visit it. The best dinners of the holidays can be made better by selections from Mr. Jenkins' elegant stock.

The Temperance Work

There was a large attendance at Murphy's temperance meeting at the Fifth avenue church last evening, and several interesting speeches were made. Among the new converts of Mr. Murphy was Mr. Joseph R. Hunter, who announced his adherence to the cause. A prominent druggist stated that he herefore had considered the vending liquors as a beverage. It is reported that there were one hundred and sixty signers of the pledge yesterday.

Sale of the Exposition Building.

The Exposition building was again put up at Sheriff's sale yesterday morning, the former sale having been set aside by the Court on account of irregularity in the proceedings. The building was purchased by J. H. Miller, Esq., for Messrs. Weldon, Sorg and Batchelor, execution creditors, for $350. These same parties also purchased the building at the former sale. They declare their intention to make some arrangement with the new Board of Directors of the Institute whereby the building will be saved to the public and the creditors be paid.

Proper Arrangements of Public Buildings.

The Directors of the Chamber of Commerce have taken hold of the subject of safety of public buildings, and a report of interest will be found in another column. The action is timely and will be productive of good results. While Fire Marshal Livingston has all along shown a zeal in the performance of his duties as Public Building Inspector has heretofore been unproductive of good to the public, although the office has been a considerable item of direct taxation upon builders as well as a tax upon citizens generally.

Good Holiday Gifts.

A good book is always a proper and enduring present and one that will cause the donor long to be remembered. A glance at our column James B. Dodge & Bro., the well-known booksellers of No. 127 Fifth avenue, present an attractive announcement for the holidays. They have on hand a splendid stock of the choicest works in all styles of binding and most suitable for presents. In the way of bibles and prayer books an elegant assortment is exhibited, as also in the line of children's books. Besides Messrs. Dodge & Bro have for sale at low prices many other articles in season, all of which they sell at low prices.

Temperance in Allegheny.

A temperance rally was held at St. Andrew's church, Allegheny, Sunday evening, conducted by the County Board of the Temperance Union of America. Forty-three gentlemen, twenty two boys and upwards of eighty ladies responded to the call of the County President, Mr. T. J. McGrath, to come forward and take the temperance pledge. Messrs. M. J. Sullivan, J. C. Conroy, J. B. Sullivan and the County Vice President, T. J. McGrath, were the speakers on the occasion. Mr. T. McGrath, aided by Mrs. McFarland, the organist of St. Andrew's church, rendered some good vocal music. A similar rally will take place at St. Malachi, South Side, next Sunday evening.

"Chicago Caramels,"
McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

The House of Refuge Buildings

In view of the movement to establish an intermediate prison at the late House of Refuge, in the Ninth ward, Allegheny, the question as to whether the State is the absolute owner of the property is being considered. The institution was founded on the basis of subscriptions by counties and individuals, with the understanding that they were to be joint owners of the property. On the other hand, the State has for years defrayed the expenses of the school, and it has been, to all intents and purposes, a State institution. It is the opinion of some of the officers of the Reform School that the removal of that institution to Morganza gave the State a clear title to the Woods Run property. Mayor Phillips expressed the opinion that the State had a good title to the property. It had been heavily mortgaged, however, to assist the Morganza scheme, and them mortgages must be paid or else the property would be sold by the Sheriff. In such an event it would simply bring what the land was worth, as no private party would have any use for the buildings. The outer wall and most of the cells were in good order, but it would take $75,000 to make the building fit for an auxiliary penitentiary. The drainage were defective, many of the floors were sunk, and knowing that the school would be removed, just as little repairs as possible had been done during the last year of its occupancy. Mr. Phillips is of opinion that the State would save money by the proposed alteration of the buildings for pentientiary purposes. The Penitentiary, he says, is now overcrowded, and nothing better could be done than to utilize the old Reform School.

"Chicago Caramels,"
McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

The County Teachers' Institute.

A meeting of this body was set for yesterday, but no meeting was held. The Allegheny teachers failed to put in an appearance, it is said, because the Board of Controllers of that city refused to grant them a few days' respite from their duties in the schoolroom. It appears, too, that the Allegheny teachers have little inclination to mix with the teachers in the rural districts. They maintain that they should have an institute of their own; that the schools of Allegheny being graded, the institute suitable for county teachers is not suitable to them, and vice versa; and also, that as the law prohibits any of the city school funds being appropriated for an institute, they are unjustly taxed to support it out of their private funds. Following is the law on the subject:

Article 137—That the county superintendent of each county in this Commonwealth is hereby authorized and required once in each year, at such time and place as he, or a properly authorized committee of teachers acting with him, may deem most convenient, to call upon and invite the teachers of the common schools and other institutions of learning in his county to assemble together and organize a teachers' institute, to be devoted to the improvement of teachers in the science and art of education, to continue in session at least five days, including a day for traveling to and from the place of meeting, and to be presided over by the county superintendent or some one designated by him.

In the case of cities the city superintendent is required by section 145 simply to cooperate, and provides that the appropriations for cities shall not be diminished for the purpose of holding county institutions.

"Chicago Caramels,"
McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Question of Safety of Public Buildings—An Important Report and Recommendations—Other Matters of Interest.

The regular weekly meeting of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday afternoon, Mr. Dravo in the chair.

Some discussion as to the financial condition of the Chamber and the propriety of renting a cheaper place for meetings, was had. From the report made by the Superintendent, however, it was believed that with the new year there would be considerable acquisition in the way of membership.

The following report was read and adopted:

SAFETY OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Gentlemen—The committee appointed by the board at its last meeting to inquire into the duties and powers of the Building Inspector of this city in regard to securing the safety of public halls and places of amusement, and also as to the duties of the Fire Marshal of the county in regard to the safety of buildings generally, beg leave to report that they have found in the laws of Pennsylvania the following provisions bearing upon the matters.

DUTIES OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR.

In an act of Assembly No. 415 approved March 14, 1867, for the better regulation of public halls and places of amusements in the cities of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Allegheny, the following sections will be found:

SEC. 1, That it shall not be lawful for the owners or lessees of any public hall or place of amusement, in the city of Philadelphia, to obstruct, or to allow to be obstructed by others, any of the aisles or passage ways, in the auditorium of said halls or places of amusement, by placing therein, any benches, chairs, stools or other articles, that may prevent free egress or ingress during the hours that said places may be open to the public.

SEC. 2. That said owners, lessees, or their agents, are hereby required to keep open, at all hours during the said halls or places of amusement are open to the public, all doors giving means of ingress or egress, unless said doors open outward from said places, then the same may be closed; but no hindrance, such as locks or catches of any kind, shall be allowed to obstruct, or prevent instant and easy egress through the same; and when said doors open inwards, it is required of said owners, or lessees that the same be fastened securely open.

SEC. 3. That in addition to the requirements of this act, the owners and lessees of all theatres and all similar places of amusement, are required, at all hours during the time said places are open to the public, to keep attached to a plug or water attachment, to be furnished by them for that purpose, sufficient hose of the size used by the fire companies of the city to extend to the furthermost limits of said places of amusement, and that said hose shall be kept at all times in good repair and ready at all times during the said hours for immediate use.

SEC. 4. That a penalty of five hundred dollars be imposed upon any owners or lessees of any of said public halls or places of amusement who may at any time, violate any of the provisions of this act, to be recovered in like manner as penalties for violation of any law are now enforced in the city of Philadelphia.

SEC. 5. That the building inspectors of the city of Philadelphia are hereby author ized and required to enforce the provisions of this act, and shall, on complaint of any citizen of said city of the violation of any of its provisions, bring suit for the recovery of the penalty imposed for said violation: and one half of said penalty, when enforced, to be paid to the informer and one-half to the treasurer of the fund for the relief of disabled firemen, for the benefit of said fund.

SEC. 6. That all the provisions of the above act shall also apply to the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny.

And from another act of Assembly No. 605, approved March 28, 1870, relative to the duties of the inspector of buildings in the city of Pittsburgh and which refers to the act of March 14, 1867, the following extract is made:

SECTION 1. That it shall be the duty of the inspector of buildings of the city of Pittsburgh to enforce the provisions of the act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act for the better regulation of public halls and places of amusement in the city of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Allegheny," approved March 14, 1867, in relation to buildings in said city of Pittsburgh; and all the power and duties relating to said buildings, conferred upon the city regulator by the first named act, are hereby transferred to and conferred upon said inspector of buildings."

DUTIES OF THE FIRE MARSHAL.

We also find that by a supplement, No. 1,081, to an act to provide for the appointment of a Fire Marshal for the county of Allegheny, and approved April 14, 1870, that the power and duties of the Marshal are largely increased as will be seen by the following extracts, viz:

SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the Marshal or his deputies to examine the dwelling houses and other buildings in said county for the purpose of ascertaining whether the stoves and pipes therein, boilers, heaters and also all chemical apparatus which in their opinion may be dangerous in causing or promoting fires, and also the places where ashes may be deposited; and upon finding any of them defective or dangerous, said marshal or his deputies shall direct the owner or occupant, either by printed or written notice, to alter, remove or amend the same in such manner, or within such reasonable time as they may deem necessary; and in case of neglect or refusal to do so, the party offending shall forfeit and pay, upon conviction thereof before any mayor or justice of the peace of said county, any sum not exceeding five dollars, for use of said county, to be collected as fines and forfeitures are now collected by law.

SEC. 3. And said marshal or his deputies, or either of them, are hereby empowered, at any and all times, to enter into and examine all buildings, livery or other stables, hay boats or other vessels, and places where gunpowder or other combustible materials may be lodged, and give such directions, in writing, in the premises as may be deemed necessary, relative to the removal thereof; and in case of neglect or refusal on the part of the possessors of such combustible materials, or any of them, to remove or secure the same within twenty-four hours after notice given by the offending shall forfeit and pay, in addition to any penalty hereinbefore imposed, the sum of twenty-five dollars, to be collected as heretofore provided for in this act."

RECOMMENDATIONS.

With the powers and authority which the foregoing recited acts of Assembly invest the city and county officials named, we would, in! view of the recent appalling calamity which has fallen on the city of Brooklyn, most respectfully and earnestly recommend to the Building Inspector and Fire Marshal a thorough and searching examination of all places of public assemblage, and other properties where danger is likely to occur, and to demand and enforce a vigorous compliance with the requirements of the laws referred to.

In connection with this subject we would recommend a supplement to the act No. 415 in relation to public halls and places of amusement—so as to absolutely require that all the doors of egress from public halls, places of amusement, churches and school houses, now constructed, or to be constructed, shall open outwards, instead of inwards, as a majority of them do at present.

In large assemblages panics are liable to occur from many, and sometimes trifling causes other than that occasioned by fire; as we have on record divers instances where many lives have been lost and much bodily injury sustained by the rush of an excited assemblage, who, failing to find their retreat cut off from the building from the circumstance of the doors opening inwards, thus shutting them up in a trap, and rendering the frightened audience utterly unable to escape without wounds, broken limbs or a horrible death.

We earnestly appeal to those having authority, to take this matter in hand at once, so that we may be spared from scenes similar to that of Brooklyn, if laws with suitable penalties will have any effect.

We would also recommend as a supplement to the act of March 14, 1867, making it obligatory on the owners and lessees of all large manufactories of two or more stories, and on the directors of schools when the building has two or more stories, that a sufficient number of fire escapes be attached to the outside of the building, to insure a safe mode of egress in the event of fire or fame.

In conclusion we would recommend to all citizens who have an interest in the general welfare of the community, to afford ready aid and acquiescence in the efforts of the Inspector and Marshal in their endeavors to abate all dangerous nuisances that endanger the public safety.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

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ARTHUR KIRK,
N. GRATTAN MURPHY.

PITTSBURGH, December 18, 1876.

The thanks of the Board were tendered to the committee and on motion the committee was continued with instructions to call the attention of the proper officers to the report and ask for procuring the necessary legislation to make public buildings safe.

The following offered by Mr. Meyran was also adopted:

While recognizing the services and activity of the Fire Marshal and Building Inspector, which since the Brooklyn horror has been displayed by them, we deem it all important that this subject and the laws bearing thereon cannot be too well exercised, therefore

Resolved, That the report made in reference to the subject be submitted to both branches of City Councils, and the Grand Jury now in session, requesting that they recommend the strict enforcement of the laws as they now exist.

Mr. McCreary called the attention of the Board to the fact, as he had learned, that frequently during the year there is not enough water in the channel of the harbor to float the numerous boats generally anchored there. In case of a fire breaking out among them the whole might be lost from the inability to move them. In this connection the proposed dam at Brunot's Island was important.

In answer to a question, Mr. Dravo said he was in favor of a dam at the place stated, for harbor purposes.

No action was taken on the subject and the meeting adjourned.

"Chicago Caramels,"
McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

THE POOR AND NEEDY.

Pittsburgh Association for the Improvement of the Poor—Regular Weekly Meeting—Reports of Officers, &c., &c.

The regular weekly meeting of the Pittsburgh Association for the Improvement of the Poor was held at three o'clock yesterday afternoon, in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association. The President, Mrs. W. A. Herron, occupied the chair.

Mrs. Lippincott, the Recording Secretary, presented her general report, embracing the reports of the ten lady visitors, or missionaries, for the week ending last Saturday. The following is a recapitulation:

The total number of visits to the poor from December 4 to December 11, 1876, was 555; number of families relieved, 146; intemperate families visited, 106; coal orders granted, 72; shoes, 47 pairs; number relieved by churches, 5; number of Sabbath school scholars secured, 9, for four of whom homes have been secured, and six were furnished with employment. The persons relieved are denominationally classified as follows: Episcopalians, 38; Presbyterians, 37; Baptists, 32; Methodists, 32; Lutheran, 18; Church of God, 1; Roman Catholics, 91; no denomination, 225.

Mrs. Lippincott next presented the report of the Central Office for the week ending December 18th, as follows: Number of applications for relief, 335; number of families aided, 136, composing 532 persons. The nationality and religious belief of the persons relieved are thus given: American, 73; English, 3; Irish, 21; Scotch, 21; Dutch, 1; Welsh, 6; Russian, 1; French, 1; colored 63. Episcopal, 11; Presbyterian, 12; Methodist, 46; Baptist, 6; Lutheran, 12; Roman Catholic, 144; no church, 144. During the past week there were given out 51 coal orders, 102 pairs of shoes, 71 grocery orders. The donations were as follows: Mrs. George Edwards, 2 blankets; Mrs. Hargrave, 1 comfort; Mrs. William Thaw, 1 comfort, 2 blankets, 13 articles of clothing, 34 yards flannel, 12 yards jeans, 5½ yards calico, 6 yards muslin, 6 pounds cotton batting; Mrs. Quincy Scott, 19 articles of clothing; Miss Mary Reiter, 40 articles of clothing; Mrs. W. E. Schmertz, 2 boxes shoes valued at $76; S. S. Marvin, 55 loaves of bread; Kinder Blair, 11 loaves of bread; Mrs. Samuel Ewart, 4 pounds fresh meat; McCreary & Bro., 3 large sacks cornmeal.

The supply of coal is not more than half equal to the present demand. There is great distress among the working people this winter. Dire extremity has driven many to us for the necessities of life. People are asking for employment, asking only sufficient recompense to procure bread. From twenty to thirty single men have applied for aid at the office. They seem plain that they are without food and shelter and are sent empty handed from one Association to another until they lose all hope and swell the number denominated tramps. We are almost powerless to help them, and yet they certainly need care and assistance.

Next in order came the reports of the lady visitors. These related many cases of great distress in all parts of the city, in all of which relief was given as far as the limited means of the Association would permit. The greatest need of the poor at present is coal, and measures will at once be taken to procure a larger supply. The visitors reported interesting prayer meetings held in their several districts.

Many instances of deception and imposition on the part of unworthy applicants were reported by the visitors. One lady stated that an old couple in her district who were receiving relief from the Guardians of the Poor resorted to the trick of feigning sickness when the officer of the Guardians paid his visits. On one occasion the lady visitor passed the door of this old couple soon after the officer of the poor authorities left, and found the old man still in bed pretending to be suffering from great pain. Suspecting a trick, she took the house and stood for several minutes in an adjacent alley, when she suddenly re-entered the house and found the sick man up and dressed, and preparing about the room as lively as a cricket. These people were stricken from the list of deserving applicants for relief.

After holding a brief business meeting the association adjourned.

ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES.

Young Men's Christian Association of Wilkinsburg.

The second anniversary of the Young Men's Christian Association of Wilkinsburg was held on Sunday evening, in the Presbyterian church (Rev. S. M. Henderson, pastor), and attracted a very large audience, all the Protestant church organizations of the community being represented.

The exercises opened with the singing of selections from the "Gospel Hymns and Sacred Songs" by a very efficient choir composed of gentlemen.

After the reading of a scripture lesson by the Rev. Mr. Siesse, and prayer by the Rev. Mr. Henderson, Mr. Rigor, President of the Association, read his report, detailing the operations of the past year. The association organized with eighteen active and three associate members. There have since been added fourteen active and one associate member. One member was lost by death, and seven by removal. The regular weekly meetings are held in the lecture room of the Presbyterian church; and meetings have also been held, at short intervals, at the houses of different members in Homewood and North Dallas, at the churches in Wilkinsburg, and at the Swissvale school house. The association, either by printed or written notice, to alter, remove or amend the same in such manner, or within such reasonable time as they may deem necessary; and in case of neglect or refusal to do so, the party offending shall forfeit and pay, upon conviction thereof before any mayor or justice of the peace of said county, any sum not exceeding five dollars, for use of said county, to be collected as fines and forfeitures are now collected by law.

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"Chicago Caramels,"
McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge Kelly.

In the matter of Peter Campbell, a bankrupt, an argument was had in the United States District Court on the exceptions to the Registers report on the validity of liens claimed against the estate by Mr. Laird for exceptions, and Messrs. Foster, Atkinson, Marchand and Hunter for report. The decision of the Court was reserved.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

Patrick Kelly for use of Daniel McGinnis vs. Michael Kelly. Jury discharged and non-suit taken by plaintiff.

City National Bank vs. Peter Madden. J. W. Over appointed auditor to make distribution of fund in Court.

J. W. Morgan *et al.* vs. Thomas Fawcett; previously reported. Verdict for defendant.

Duquesne National Bank vs. John Marshall. Judgment against Leonard Singhose in the sum of $277 63.

Voluntary assignment of Wm. H. Canley. John Dawson and David Winters were appointed assignees.

J. C. Bedell, for use, vs. J. V. Rowland. Rule on plaintiff and claimant of goods levied on to show cause why they should not maintain or relinquish their respective claims.

Dr. J. A. Duncan vs. George Cohen. On trial.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Ewing and Kirkpatrick.

In the case of Jacob Kimmell vs. Kenworthy & Gooden, which was reported previously, the jury found for the plaintiff in the sum of $100.

The case of David Bushnell for use vs. the Union Refining and Storing Company is still on trial before Judge Kirkpatrick.

The Lycoming County Mutual Insurance Company vs. G. S. Bates, W. J. Hammond and Dr. James Robinson. The first named defendant was the agent of the plaintiff company, and the other two defendants were his bondsmen. The suit was brought to recover an amount which, it was claimed, Bates had received as agent for the company, but had neglected to account for. Verdict for the company for $500.

Daniel Kinzer vs. Jacob Steiner, impleaded with Joseph Rupperth; action for rent. Verdict for plaintiff for $170 92 against Jacob Steiner, and damages as to Joseph Rupperth assessed in the same amount.

Frederick Fritsch and John Ruff, partners as Fritsch & Ruff vs. John Mackin and Jacob Fricay. The defendants were the contractors for the building of a bridge on Second avenue, and in September, 1875, one of the plaintiff's wagons, laden with beer, was driven over the embankment, and one animal was killed and the other disabled. The plaintiffs allege negligence on the part of the defendants in not guarding or protecting the embankment over which they were building the bridge. On trial before Judge Ewing.

Oyer and Terminer—Judges Stowe and Sterrett.

THE LINKNER-SCHAFFER HOMICIDE.

Henry Linkner was arraigned for the murder of Henry Schaffer, and put in a plea of not guilty.

District Attorney Montooth, W. C. Moreland, Esq., and James T. Buchanan appear for the Commonwealth, while the prisoner is represented by Messrs. Weir and Gibson.

The crime with which the prisoner stands charged was committed in East Deer township, on the 13th day of October, 1876. The prisoner and the deceased, Germans, were drovers, and had been partners in this business for a good many years. They lived in the same house in Dutchtown, Lower St. Clair township, and their mode of business was to buy up cows from farmers throughout the country, drive them to Allegheny and expose them for sale at the cow market in that city. The evidence in the murdered man was found about eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the 13th of October, lying near the Butler road, about fifteen miles from Allegheny. The head and face were crushed and bruised and the skull fractured, the fatal wounds having evidently been inflicted with a rock or some such stone, which were lying close to the remains. The murderous attack had evidently been made in a fence corner at the side of the road, after which the body had been dragged four or five rods from the spot into the woods.

Linkner was arrested in Allegheny on Saturday, the day after the discovery of the remains. He expressed deep regret at the news of the death of his partner, and denied all knowledge of the murder. Circumstances which were strongly against him were the finding of the pocket book of the deceased, containing a hundred dollars, upon his person, and the fact that his wife wore a dress trimmed with blood in places. The defendant is forty eight years of age and unmarried, having lived for a number of years with the family of the deceased.

The following jurors were empannelled to try the case: James Fisher, Joseph McElheron, R. A. Hall, Thomas Harper, A. J. Sarlock, W. H. H. Riley, George Armstrong, John Woods, Jesse McCouvre, C. Reidick, Charles Layton, Timothy O'Brien.

The District Attorney opened the case for the Commonwealth.

Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer was the first witness called. She was sworn and testified as follows, being interpreted by Squire Krehan: Live on Mt. Oliver; am the widow of Henry Schaffer; last saw him alive on Tuesday morning, the 10th inst., at Butler county; Henry Linkner was with him when he left; have known Linkner about three years; my husband was a driver; he was fifty three years of age; had a conversation with my husband before he left; the hat that he wore belonged to my boy; Schaffer's hat was torn, and I told him to wear this one in its stead, and he should buy one for the boy; it was a black hat and had a broad ribbon on it; I had fixed it on the morning before he left; he had a pocketbook and money, the pocketbook I had been carrying myself for about a year; it had been torn; he said to me I should bring him the money that he intrusted to me the evening previous; it was in five and ten dollar bills; there was one hundred and forty five; Linkner had gone in the stable and I gave the money to Schaffer; he had another roll of money besides this. (Hat shown and identified. Two pocketbooks also shown and one identified as Schaffer's.) The hat and pocketbook were then offered in evidence. The witness continued: My husband was buried in Zimmerman's Cemetery; Linkner got home on Friday evening; I asked him where my husband was, and he didn't tell me then; I begged him to tell me where my husband was, and if anything had happened; told me to keep quiet and not make a noise; when he came down to the house he brought Schaffer's overcoat; then I told him he should tell me if anything was the matter; he told me they had stopped in Butler; they had gone for dinner, and when they left, he went one way and Schaffer another; Schaffer said he wanted to go and see if he couldn't buy another cow; that was the only conversation I had with Linkner; Linkner was dressed the same way as when he left; Linkner stayed in our house on Friday night; heard that he had been arrested on Saturday. (Linkner's overcoat shown and identified.) He had this coat on when he came home. (Linkner's pants, vest and shirt shown and identified.) He had these on when he left and when he came back.

Cross examined—Was greatly alarmed and frightened when Linkner came home without my husband; Linkner eat supper at our house that night; this was the first time he had ever come house alone; Linkner had lived about three years in the family; I didn't know him at all before; Schaffer knew him; during the latter part of that time they bought in partnership; he made home regularly at our house; he was not a married man; my husband and Linkner were particular good friends, even that morning when they left home; Linkner helped Schaffer once in lending him money, but I don't know to what amount; last summer he went bail for him.

Several other witnesses were examined as to the fact that the two men were seen together, in the vicinity of the murder, on the day before it occurred, having taken dinner at the house of Mrs. Elizabeth Williams. Several witnesses identified Linkner as the person seen with Schaffer, on the day before the murder. They had with them a horse and buggy, and a cow and calf which they had purchased.

There is scarcely any doubt that the accused is guilty, but there may be considerable difficulty in making out the proof, as no one saw the killing. The testimony relied on for the Commonwealth is wholly circumstantial.

Legal Notes.

The United States Circuit Court was not in session yesterday.

Judge White was too ill yesterday to hold court.

Proceedings in ejectment have been begun in the Court of Common Pleas No. 2, to wrest from the present possessors a large and valuable tract of land in the Twenty-second ward. The plaintiffs are Joseph Duke, George Duke and Hiram Duke, and the defendants, who now hold the property, are James Hutchinson and Adam Shaub. The tract of land in dispute includes 384 acres and is described as follows: Bounded on the north by the land of William Coleman, on the south by the land of R. B. Phillips, on the east by the land of David Morrison, *et al.*, and on the west by the land of Adam Shaw, which was formerly the Irwin estate. Summons issued.

Mr. L. Bechtold was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, on Saturday last, and not one year, as incorrectly published. The mistake occurred through an inadvertence.

Returned.

Constable J. J. Hays, of Allegheny, was arrested in Cleveland and brought to the city yesterday by Detective Reeves. The arrest was made on a bail piece issued at the instance of Mr. James Reno, who had become surety for Hays' appearance in the Criminal Court to answer several charges. The jolly constable "shook" the town shortly after he arranged the little matter of bail, and has been a much wanted man ever since. He was sent to jail.

Literary Entertainment.

Professor Wm. Mason Evans, the well known elocutionist, will give an entertainment this evening, at the Pittsburgh Female College, consisting of recitations from Shakespeare, Dickens, and the poetic authors. Mr. Evans is one of the most accomplished readers in the country, and those who attend will enjoy a rich feast.

OLD and young, rich and poor, all unite in testefying to the true merit of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. For over a quarter of a century it has proved itself a true, tried and trusted friend.

A SAD CASE.

A Perilous Journey From the Black Hills.

A lady giving her name as Mrs. R. A. Kilbury stopped in Allegheny yesterday, having just returned from Deadwood, Dakota Territory, bringing letters from Israel Hoge to his relatives. The mission of Mrs. K. was one of peculiar sadness. She came to the home of an aged couple in Butler county to announce to them the death of their son and his wife in the far West, and to place in their keeping four little orphaned grandchildren who had been intrusted to her care by the father while on his deathbed. The story, in brief, is: Nearly a year ago Alexander McMillan, his wife and three children, of Butler, went to the Black Hills, and soon after their arrival at Deadwood the lust band was prostrated with a fever, and while he was at the point of death his wife gave birth to an infant and died when it was only seven days old. The people of Deadwood subscribed money to send the children back to Butler, and Mrs. Kilbury heroically volunteered to take charge of the helpless little ones and bring them to their grandparents. After taking leave of the dying father (he died a few hours after their departure) the little party started for Cheyenne in a heavy freight wagon, containing a feather bed and an abundance of blankets. They travelled over the long and dreary route, through snow nearly a foot in depth, reaching Cheyenne in safety, and thence by rail to Butler, where the children, all well, were placed in charge of their relatives. It is almost unnecessary to say that Mrs. K. succeeded in bringing the infant, only ten days old, through the perilous voyage. She states that at times during the trip in the wagon she was nearly frozen, and that she kept the babe alive with milk which she warmed by means of a spirit lamp.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Only brief mention can be made of Miss Maggie Mitchell's performance in her new play of "Mignon," last night. The good things said beforehand of the piece were, in seems, fully justified. It is well written, and affords Miss Mitchell every opportunity to display her talent as an actress. Messrs. Gotthold, Harris, Stockwell, Dean, Willard and others had fine parts, and did justice to them. An outline of the play will be given to-morrow. The scenery was, much of it, new and very fine.

"Mignon" will be repeated every evening this week, and at matinees to-morrow and Saturday. Everybody should see it.

Library Hall—Emerson's Minstrels.

It is not often that a writer is justified in giving only praise to a minstrel performance; but such is the case with Emerson's party, who gave their first entertainment at Library Hall last evening. The ballad singing of J. G. Russell and Beaumont Reed is equal to any ever heard here. Mackin and Wilson's songs and dances are immense, while Ernest Linden, the four square queen of song, has never been surpassed. Billy Emerson and Ben Cotton keep everybody in a good humor by their quaint and original jokes.

They can be heard again this evening.

CITY HATTERS IN BRIEF.

SMALLPOX has broken out in Temperanceville.

OF smallpox, only five deaths occurred in Allegheny last week.

MANY people doubt the coming of "Bob." Greer on the offer of a conditional pardon.

THE Gounod Club will open Choral Hall, in Sewickley, to-night, with English opera.

Two vacancies were created in the fire department last evening for infractions of the rules.

EMERALD Branch No. 50, after a precarious existence of little over a year, has concluded to disband.

THERE were thirteen additions to the Central Presbyterian church at the communion services, Sabbath last.

THE annual fair for the benefit of St. Paul's R. C. Orphan Asylum is announced to open in the Cathedral basement on Friday evening.

THOMAS W. BROWN, agent for Mrs. Henrietta Charfrau, is in the city on his way to Youngstown, Ohio, to spend New Year's day in that city.

THE festive Texan bullock "cavorted" in the Allegheny Diamond yesterday morning, frightening many people but hurting nobody.

POSTMASTER MYLER, of Allegheny, who has been confined to his house for several days by reason of a hemorrhage of the lungs, is improving.

THE two prisoners at the Central Station, Barkley and Ellis, charged before the Mayor with robbery of Boggs & Buhl's store, will have a hearing to-day.

JACK O'BRIEN, for drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy and general cussedness, was sent to the workhouse for ninety days, yesterday, by Deputy Mayor King.

THE Art exhibition at Library Hall opened last evening and attracted, notwithstanding the cold weather, a large number of visitors. A very full collection of pictures by home artists are tastefully arranged upon the walls. Admission, 25 cents.

HEALTH OFFICER GRAY reports additional cases of small-pox. He cites the fact that in November twenty-seven cases were reported (seven of which died), as an evidence of the need of greater care and the most effective measures to check the spread of the disease.

A BOY named Casselmier was arrested on Federal street last evening on suspicion of larceny. He had in his possession a new shovel, and he was unable to give a